ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

FIRST TO FIFTEENTH REPORTS ON THE PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1990–1991

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL RECORDS: FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

SUPPLEMENT No. 7 (A/45/7 and Add.1–14)

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New York, 1991

NOTE

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DOCUMENT A/45/7

First report

Activities of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

[Original: English]

[2 October 1990]

A. General

1. The major functions of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, as defined by the General Assembly in its resolution 14 (I), section A, of 13 February 1946, are:

> "(a) To examine and report on the budget submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly;
>
> "(b) To advise the General Assembly concerning any administrative and budgetary matters referred to it;
>
> "(c) To examine on behalf of the General Assembly the administrative budgets of the specialized agencies and proposals for financial arrangements with such agencies;
>
> "(d) To consider and report to the General Assembly on the auditors' reports on the accounts of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies."

In addition, the Advisory Committee reports on administrative budgets and other matters to the governing bodies of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (voluntary funds), the United Nations Environment Programme (Environment Fund), the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, the United Nations University, the World Food Programme and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research.

2. Under rule 156 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the members of the Advisory Committee, no two of whom shall be nationals of the same State, shall be selected on the basis of broad geographical representation, personal qualifications and experience.

3. The members of the Advisory Committee are:

Mr. C. S. M. MSELLE (Chairman)

Mr. Lawrence O. C. AGUBUZU

Mr. Ahmad Fathi AL-MASRI

Mr. BAGBENI ADEITO Nzengeya

Mr. Carlos CASAP

Mr. Even FONTAINE ORTIZ

Mr. John FOX

Mr. Yogesh K. GUPTA

Mr. Tadanori INOMATA

Mr. Ulrich KALBITZER

Ms. Irmeli MUSTONEN

Mr. Jozsef TARDOS

Mr. Christopher R. THOMAS

Mr. Tjaco T. VAN DEN HOUT

Mr. Viktor Aleksandrovich VISLYKH

Mr. YANG Hushan

4. The Advisory Committee met at Santiago from 9 to 13 April, in New York from 17 April to 25 May, at Geneva from 28 May to 8 June, and at Vienna from 11 to 15 June 1990. The matters that were before the Committee in each of these locations are discussed below.

B. Meetings at Santiago

5. The main purpose of the Committee's visit to Santiago was to afford it an opportunity to see first hand the operations and activities of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), including most especially administrative and budgetary arrangements.

6. The Committee was brought up to date on the status of accommodation at Santiago. In keeping with the increased attention being paid to the administrative and budgetary aspects of extrabudgetary activities, the Advisory Committee received extensive information on the extrabudgetary activities carried out by ECLAC. The Committee also inquired into arrangements now in place and contemplated for dealing with the question of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs.

C. Meetings in New York

7. In New York, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and with representatives of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and submitted two reports (DP/1990/55 and DP/1990/87) to the Governing Council of UNDP at its thirty-seventh session (May-June 1990) dealing, respectively, with:

(a) UNFPA:

(i) Report of the Executive Director on proposed revisions to the Financial Regulations of UNFPA (DP/1990/86);

(ii) Report on the senior management structure at UNFPA headquarters and its implications for post classifications (DP/1990/52);

(iii) Report of the Executive Director on the criteria and procedures for the establishment of temporary and regular posts in the field and at headquarters and proposal on the conversion of existing temporary local posts in the field (DP/1990/53);

(b) UNDP:

(i) Revised budget estimates for the biennium 1990-1991 (DP/1990/65 and Corr.2);

(ii) Trust funds established by the Administrator in 1989 (DP/1990/68 and Add.1);

(iii) Agency support costs - Report of the Expert Group on the Study of Successor Arrangements for Support Costs and Related Issues (DP/1990/9 and Corr.1);

(iv) UNDP Financial Regulations (DP/1990/63).

8. The Advisory Committee also met with the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and his representatives to consider the 1990 budgetary proposals for the Institute, and issued its report thereon.

9. A meeting was held with representatives of the United Nations University to discuss revised financial regulations and the management of the Endowment Fund of the University.

10. The Advisory Committee also considered a number of reports related to peace-keeping. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/192 A of 21 December 1989, the Secretary-General reported to the Committee on the proposed establishment of a support account. The Committee agreed to the establishment of the account in 1990, with interim financing from the combination of resources already included in the approved peace-keeping budgets, specifically for overload posts. As for the method of financing to be used beginning 1991, the Committee requested additional information on a proposed formula which would identify and justify the cost to each operation.

The information was to be supplied to the Advisory Committee and to the General Assembly before the end of September 1990 so that the formula could be considered by the Assembly. The Advisory Committee also was provided with the criteria which will govern proposals for the creation of additional posts for peace-keeping and related support activities to be financed from the support account. In this connection, the Advisory Committee requested the Secretary-General to establish new posts financed from the account only after having received the Committee's concurrence. The Committee also expressed its view that an appropriate mix of contractual arrangements should be maintained vis-à-vis the staff filling posts financed by the account, so as to continue to provide flexibility in the management of staff resources. Finally, the Committee stated its intention to recommend to the General Assembly an appropriate procedure for review of the account, in the context of its report on the method of financing to be applied from 1 January 1991.

11. The Advisory Committee also considered a report on the operations of the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG). The purpose of that report was threefold: to provide information on the financial performance of UNIIMOG for the period 1 October 1989 to 31 March 1990; to report on the status of the receipt of assessed contributions to the UNIIMOG Special Account for the period ending 31 March 1990 and to propose the distribution of credits to Member States; and to seek the Advisory Committee's concurrence as to the level of commitments to be authorized for the six-month mandate period from 1 April to 30 September 1990.

12. With regard to the distribution of credits to Member States, the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/189 of 21 December 1989, specified that $10 million of the unencumbered balance of UNIIMOG as at 30 September 1989 shall be credited to Member States against their assessments in respect of such mandate periods as might be approved by the Security Council for the 12 months subsequent to 31 March 1990. The Advisory Committee concurred in the Secretary-General's proposal to credit $5 million to Member States in respect of the mandate period 1 April to 30 September 1990, on the understanding that the remaining $5 million would be credited to Member States against the assessments in respect of the mandate period beginning 1 October 1990. The Advisory Committee also stated its intention to review the unencumbered balance of $13.7 million net as at 31 March 1990 (excluding the above-mentioned $10 million) in the context of its examination of the estimates for the next mandate period, in order to ascertain whether additional amounts can be credited to Member States.

13. With regard to the mandate period 1 April to 30 September 1990, the Secretary-General requested the concurrence of the Advisory Committee in the level of commitments in the amount of $38.4 million gross. That amount had been authorized by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/189, subject to the concurrence of the Advisory Committee. After considering the supporting information, the Advisory Committee gave its concurrence for a level of commitments equivalent to the cost of maintaining UNIIMOG during the six-month period ending 31 March 1990, i.e. $29.8 million gross. In so doing, the Advisory Committee indicated that, should the negotiations on the deployment of UNIIMOG-operated helicopters and the establishment of a naval unit be successfully completed, the Committee would be prepared to consider an increased level of commitments, if so required.

14. Pursuant to the Advisory Committee's request in its report, 1/ which was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/191 of 21 December 1989, the Advisory Committee was provided with a report on the disposition of the property of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) in Namibia upon the completion of its mandate; as previously proposed by the Secretary-General in his report, 2/ and approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/191, the property would be placed in reserve for future use by other peace-keeping operations, transferred to specialized agencies establishing a presence in Namibia, or donated to the Government of Namibia. The Advisory Committee was provided with preliminary schedules of equipment to be disposed of in the above manner; final schedules will be provided in due course. Pursuant to the provisions of financial regulation 12.7, and in view of the size and complexity of the UNTAG operation, the Advisory Committee has requested the Board of Auditors to conduct a special audit of the UNTAG operations. The report of the Board will be submitted during the current session of the General Assembly.

15. The Advisory Committee also considered reports of the Secretary-General concerning the United Nations Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA). These reports concerned the commitments entered into by the Secretary-General in respect of the enlarged mandate of the operation, which was authorized by the Security Council (resolution 650 (1990)) on a contingency basis, and in respect of the extension of that mandate through 29 June 1990 by the Council (resolution 656 (1990)).

16. The Advisory Committee considered a report on the financial performance of ONUCA for the period 7 November 1989 to 6 May 1990. The Committee gave its concurrence for commitments in the amount of $27,144,600 gross ($26,337,000 net) for the mandate period 7 May to 7 November 1990. The Secretary-General also proposed to credit Member States an amount of $8 million against the net assessments for the mandate period 7 May to 7 November 1990, in view of the operation's unencumbered balance. In proposing that amount, the Secretary-General stated his intention to retain an amount of $1,989,800 net to provide for the possible non-payment of assessments in the mandate period. The Advisory Committee, however, indicated that Member States should be credited the entire $9,989,800 against this mandate period.

17. The Advisory Committee also considered a report of the Secretary-General concerning his efforts to encourage and facilitate the early realization of a comprehensive political settlement in Afghanistan, as called for in General Assembly resolution 44/15 of 1 November 1989. Following consideration of that report, the Committee concurred in the Secretary-General's request to enter into commitments up to $1,482,400 with regard to his efforts to reach a comprehensive political settlement in Afghanistan. That amount relates to the cost of retaining, through December 1990, a limited number of military officers serving as military advisers to the Secretary-General's Personal Representative in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

18. Those advisers constitute a component of the Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan and Pakistan (OSGAP), which, under the Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, continues to carry out the Secretary-General's role in promoting a comprehensive political settlement in Afghanistan.

19. In concurring in the Secretary-General's request, the Advisory Committee stated its expectation that the Secretary-General would pursue his negotiations with the Governments concerned to obtain local staff, vehicles and accommodations for OSCAP and requested that it be kept informed of the outcome of those negotiations, and that any attendant savings be reflected in the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 (A/C.5/45/45 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1).

20. With regard to the programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989, the Advisory Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General on transfer of credits among sections. The Advisory Committee also had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance for 1988-1989 of the United Nations (A/45/218 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1). The comments of the Advisory Committee on this report will be submitted in the context of its report on the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (see A/45/617).

21. The Advisory Committee considered a number of items relating to the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, one of which was the Secretary-General's report on workload statistics and workload standards at Headquarters, Geneva and Vienna (A/C.5/45/1). The Committee's observations on this matter will be submitted to the current session of the General Assembly (see document A/45/7/Add.1 below).

22. The Advisory Committee also had before it a paper on the rental of conference space at Bangkok to accommodate the forty-sixth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) at Bangkok, but outside of the headquarters premises of ESCAP in view of the current lack of conference facilities due to construction work. The Advisory Committee concurred in the Secretary-General's request to enter into commitments under the terms of General Assembly resolution 44/203 of 21 December 1989 in an amount not to exceed $124,600, on the understanding that a request for an additional appropriation in this regard will not be forthcoming. The Advisory Committee also concurred in the Secretary-General's proposal for an arrangement under which the payment of a rental subsidy to internationally recruited General Service staff at the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia will be continued in the current biennium but phased out by 30 June 1991; the related cost will be met from savings from within section 14 (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia) of the programme budget.

23. With regard to the Secretary-General's proposal for the establishment of an extrabudgetary D-2 post for the future secretariat of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, the Committee felt that sufficient information was not provided in respect of, inter alia, the actual size of the secretariat, the manner of operation of the secretariat in relation to existing United Nations established structures, and whether the financing of the secretariat could be sustained relative to the size of the trust fund for the Decade. In the circumstances, the Advisory Committee requested that it be provided with a more complete report which would address the above-mentioned points.

24. The Advisory Committee considered two requests of the Secretary-General concerning the extension of the appointment of the Special Representative for

the Promotion of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons. The Committee concurred in the extension of the contract of the Special Representative for the three-month period April-June 1990. With regard to the Secretary-General's subsequent proposal to further extend the contract of the Special Representative until the end of the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons, i.e. through 1992, the Committee agreed to an extension through the end of December 1990, pending a review of the matter at its fall 1990 session.

25. On the basis of information provided to it, the Advisory Committee concurred in a request submitted on behalf of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) for the establishment of a post of Coordinator of operations at the D-2 level to be financed from the Agency's own operational funds.

26. The Advisory Committee also discussed the Secretary-General's report on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213 (A/45/226). The Advisory Committee's comments thereon will be submitted in the context of its observations on the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (see A/45/617).

27. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 37/235 C of 21 December 1982, in which the Assembly endorsed the recommendations of the Advisory Committee in its report, 3/ the Advisory Committee considered a report of the Secretary-General on judgements issued by the United Nations Administrative Tribunal during 1989. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls that in paragraph 8 of its report 3/ it recommended that an annual report on the work of the Tribunal be submitted to the Committee and that such report "could focus on those decisions which would require significant modification of existing practice with regard to a particular regulation. The Committee could report to the Assembly on this annual report as it deemed necessary".

D. Meetings at Geneva and Vienna

28. While at Geneva and Vienna, the Advisory Committee met with the Directors-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) and the United Nations Office at Vienna (UNOV) respectively. In the context of the agenda item entitled "Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency" (IAEA), the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the specialized agencies and IAEA and discussed with them the administrative budgets of their respective organizations and other related matters.

29. The Committee also used the occasion to study the agencies' arrangements for dealing with the problem of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs. Relevant information concerning these matters will be included in the Committee's report on administrative and budgetary coordination between the United Nations, the specialized agencies and IAEA, which will be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session (A/45/798). In connection with its study on arrangements for dealing with the problem of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, the Committee also met with representatives of the Division of Narcotic Drugs of the Secretariat and the Secretary of the International Narcotics Control Board.

30. The Committee also discussed with the agencies the report of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) entitled "Budgeting in organizations of the United Nations system" (see A/45/130) as well as the question of future support-cost arrangements; the Committee, as indicated in its report (DP/1990/87), intends to submit a report on the support-cost matter at the appropriate time.

31. While at Geneva, the Advisory Committee held a meeting with JIU, primarily to discuss the above-mentioned report. The Committee also met with the Director-General of UNOG as well as with the heads of other units at Geneva, such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator. Subsequent to meeting with the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) at Geneva, the Committee issued its report on the proposed 1991 budget to the Board of Trustees of UNIDIR. The Committee also had the opportunity to be briefed by the Coordinator for the United Nations Humanitarian and Economic Assistance Programmes Relating to Afghanistan.

32. While at Geneva and Vienna, the Advisory Committee reviewed space requirements for both UNOG and UNOV.

33. In its meetings at Vienna with representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the United Nations Office at Vienna, the Advisory Committee also raised the question of joint and common services, in particular, the matter of unified conference services. In its fifth report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, 4/ the Committee had recommended that the Secretary-General submit a report to the General Assembly by the forty-fifth session on the outcome of his consultations with the parties concerned on the establishment of unified conference services at Vienna. The Committee's observations on the matter will be submitted in the context of its review of the Secretary-General's report (see document A/45/7/Add. 6 below and A/C.5/45/30).

34. In chapter I of its first report on the proposed programme budget for 1990-1991, 5/ the Advisory Committee discussed the question of extrabudgetary funds and noted, inter alia, that the disbursement of some funds is not subject to the scrutiny and control of any intergovernmental body. In its subsequent report to the General Assembly on extrabudgetary resources, 6/ the Advisory Committee stated its intention to look into the matter of arrangements for the administrative and budgetary review of the larger extrabudgetary funds and programmes such as the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control and UNRWA. Accordingly, while at Vienna, the Committee took the opportunity to meet with officials of these programmes to discuss this matter. The Committee's observations on this matter will be submitted to the General Assembly at its current session at the same time it submits its observations on the Secretary-General's report on progress achieved in addressing problems related to the extrabudgetary side of United Nations expenditure.

Notes

1/ A/44/875.

2/ A/44/856.

3/ A/37/675.

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A (A/44/7/Add.1-8), document A/44/7/Add.4.

5/ Ibid., Supplement No. 7 and corrigenda (A/44/7 and Corr.1 and 2).

6/ Ibid., Supplement No. 7A (A/44/7/Add.1-8), document A/44/7/Add.7.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.1

Second report

Workload standards for various categories of conference-servicing staff, including clerical and typing staff, and workload statistics for the various conference services in the 1986-1987 and 1988-1989 bienniums

[Original: English]

[8 October 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on workload standards for various categories of conference-servicing staff, including clerical and typing staff, and workload statistics for the various conference services in the 1986-1987 and 1988-1989 bienniums (A/C.5/45/1). The report was prepared in response to recommendations of the Advisory Committee in its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989 1/ and its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 2/ as endorsed by the General Assembly in section XVI of its resolution 44/201 B of 21 December 1989.

2. Section I of the Secretary-General's report provides workload standards for seven categories of conference-servicing staff, including clerical and typing staff, as follows: in the area of documentation, standards are provided for (a) typing (paras. 7-11), (b) translation (paras. 12-19) and (c) reproduction (paras. 20-24); and in the area of meeting services, standards are provided for (a) interpretation (paras. 25-27), (b) précis-writing (paras. 28-30), (c) verbatim reporting (paras. 31-33) and (d) supporting staff (paras. 34 and 35). In section II of the report, the Secretary-General provides workload statistics for the various conference services in the bienniums 1986-1987 and 1988-1989 (paras. 36-43) and also indicates the impact of workload statistics on the level of conference resources (paras. 44-52).

3. The Advisory Committee notes the Secretary-General's statement (para. 8) that the establishment of word processing has significantly increased the productivity of typists. The Advisory Committee also notes that the present workload standards were established before the introduction of word processing in that area. As indicated in paragraph 10 of the report, the Secretary-General has proposed a net increase of 25 per cent in the existing standards. The Advisory Committee takes note of the problems outlined by the Secretary-General in paragraph 9 of his report that may affect increased productivity. In the view of the Committee, those are not insurmountable and the Committee believes that, as the Secretariat gains more experience in the use of advanced technology, the workload standards proposed by the Secretary-General could be revised further. Upon inquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the new standards did not result from a detailed scientific examination of requirements but are more a rule of thumb. Consequently, the Advisory Committee recommends that, for the present time, workload standards should be increased by 30 per cent, from 3,300 to

4,290 words per day of original language text and from 1,650 to 2,145 words per day of final translated text.

4. The Advisory Committee was informed that, as a result of the introduction of word-processors and a common word-processing software package on a Secretariat-wide basis, author departments were currently in a position to submit documents to the Department of Conference Services in electronic form, which would result eventually in greater productivity for the Department. However, representatives of the Secretary-General indicated that the introduction of new technology would not improve the quality of the contents of documents that were submitted to the Department. In the view of the Advisory Committee there are two areas that must be addressed. First, the Advisory Committee understands that informal guidelines or presentational standards exist regarding the transmission of documents from author departments to the Department of Conference Services. The Advisory Committee recommends that formal technical standards should be established and that steps should be taken to ensure that those standards are strictly enforced. Secondly, with regard to the substantive or editorial quality of the documents, the Advisory Committee recommends that efforts should be made to upgrade the drafting and editorial abilities of the Secretariat as a whole, inter alia, through the expansion of efforts by the Training Service in this area.

5. With regard to translation (paras. 12-19), the Committee notes that the present standards do not incorporate the element of self-revision and that the Secretary-General is now proposing new standards that incorporate this aspect of the work. The Advisory Committee also recalls the statement by the Secretary-General in paragraph 15 of his report that the Department of Conference Services "intended to aim at an eventual target for self-revision of up to 45 per cent of the translation workload". The Committee notes, however, that the Secretary-General is proposing a revision of 40 per cent. The reasons for this were not fully convincing to the Advisory Committee. In the view of the Committee, technological advances and further efforts employed in the training of translators should result in more work that would be subject to self-revision. The Advisory Committee therefore recommends that the target of 45 per cent should be maintained. If that target were applied to a notional translation job of 150 standard final pages (49,500 words) the following would result:

	Current standards (workdays)	Revised standards (workdays) 40 per cent self-revision/self-revision	Revised standards (workdays) 45 per cent self-revision/self-revision
Translators	30.0	18.0	16.5
Self-revisers	-	14.1	15.8
Revisers	10.0	6.0	5.5
Total	40.0	38.1	37.8

6. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 20 of the Secretary-General's report that no standards currently exist for reproduction. The Committee also notes that the Secretary-General's proposals contained in paragraphs 21 to 24 are experimental. In this connection, the Committee was also informed that those standards were not reached through an exhaustive study. In the view of the Committee, reproduction is affected not only by the quality of staff services but also by the use of modern efficient equipment. The Advisory Committee notes the difference between the standards applied at Headquarters and at the United Nations Office at Geneva. The Committee understands that that is largely due to the different configurations of equipment at the two centres. That being the case, the Advisory Committee recommends that the figure of 20,000-page impressions should serve as a starting point for Geneva, rather than the 15,000 proposed by the Secretary-General.

7. With respect to interpretation (paras. 25-27), précis-writing (paras. 28-30), verbatim reporting (paras. 31-33) and supporting staff (paras. 34 and 35), no changes are proposed to the workload standards that currently exist. The Advisory Committee examined the areas of interpretation, précis-writing and verbatim reporting in the context of the requirements of temporary versus permanent staff. The information given to the Committee in that regard was not conclusive and the Committee intends to continue examining the cost-effectiveness of using temporary as opposed to permanent staff in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

8. Section II of the report contains information related to workload statistics for the various conference services in the bienniums 1986-1987 and 1988-1989. The Committee notes that this information has been provided in response to its request. 3/ The Committee continues to be dissatisfied with the situation at Vienna and intends to pursue that question in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

9. For comparative purposes, the Advisory Committee requested the specialized agencies to provide information concerning workload standards for their conference-servicing staff.

10. According to information provided by the International Monetary Fund, there are no official work standards for language service staff. Translators and revisers are expected to produce an average of not less than 1,500 and 3,000 words per day, respectively. There are no guidelines for typists, proof-readers and interpreters.

11. The World Health Organization (WHO) indicated that conference-servicing staff are expected to produce the following number of standard pages per workday: translators (5 pages), revisers (10 pages), editors (30 pages), proofreaders (30 pages), proofreaders of publications (50 pages), and proofreaders of official records (100 pages). On average, revisers produce 15 pages of summary records per day and typists 5,500 words per day. With respect to interpretation, WHO, as well as the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the World Intellectual Property Organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Meteorological Organization and the Universal Postal Union (UPU) apply the workload standards for interpreters as defined by the Agreement between the

Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (CCAQ) and the International Association of Conference Interpreters. That Agreement establishes the maximum workload for free-lance interpreters as two meetings a day and states that an interpreter should not be called upon to work for more than eight meetings a week. "Meeting" means a total period of two and one half to a maximum of three hours from the time the interpreter is required to be on duty.

12. The Advisory Committee also understands that, with respect to translators, revisers, editors and précis-writers, a number of agencies and offices apply the workload standards defined by the Agreement between the CCAQ and the International Association of Conference Translators. However, this Agreement applies only to short-term employment in the above-mentioned categories.

13. ILO indicated that translators produce an average of 1,750 words per person per day, while revisers produce 3,500 words per person per day.

14. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) standards for interpretation are eight meetings a week consisting of a maximum of two 3-hour meetings per day. For précis-writing, ITU has specific standards depending on the grade-level of the staff member and the length of the meeting. On average, translators produce between 4,000 and 7,500 words per person per day depending on the language and revisers between 8,000 and 18,000 words per person per day. Proofreaders produce 60 pages per day, on average. With regard to reproduction, the ITU workshops are equipped to produce a maximum of 95 million pages a year.

15. UNESCO has standards of production for translators ranging from three and one half pages to six pages per person per day depending on the language. For typing, UNESCO requires 4 to 11 pages per person per day after composition, layout and rereading.

16. FAO indicates that average production in composition typing pools is 5,500 words per person per day and 3,500 words per person per day in audio-typing pools. For translator/revisers, FAO has used 1,800 words per day as the standard production to determine the 1990 key unit costs. For reproduction, an average of 14,425 pages per day has been used. For verbatim reporting FAO hires people to service two meetings per day, which should not exceed six hours in duration.

17. UPU uses standards of 1,875 words per person per day for translators, 4,500 words per person per day for revisers and 3,000 words per person per day for typists. There are no standards for reproduction.

18. The Advisory Committee points out that workload standards are intended to be indicators of general applicability that can be used as a basis for a standardized approach to the calculation of conference-servicing costs. However, as indicated above, except for interpretation, for which there exists an agreement that is generally applied by a number of the agencies, there are no unified workload standards for conference-servicing staff in the United Nations system. The Advisory Committee recommends that the Secretariat, in the context of the appropriate inter-agency consultations, should explore the possibilities of introducing uniform standards wherever possible in those

areas which are not currently covered. The Advisory Committee requests the Secretary-General to report to it on progress achieved in this regard.

19. Subject to its observations in paragraphs 3, 5, 6 and 18 above, the Advisory Committee recommends approval of the workload standards as indicated in the annex to the present report.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/42/7), para. 29.18.

2/ Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7 and corrigenda (A/44/7 and Corr.1 and 2), para. 29.22.

3/ Ibid., paras. 29.18-29.21.

ANNEX

Standard requirements for conference services costs

1. Documentation (pre-session, in-session and post-session)

(a)	Translation:	1 workday for every 1,650 words
(b)	Revision:	1 workday for every 4,950 words
(c)	Self-revision:	1 workday for every 1,400 words
(d)	Typing:	1 workday for every 4,290 words of original language text
		1 workday for every 2,145 words of final translated text

(e) Reproduction and distribution:

The standard roll figure for each language used for costing purposes for Headquarters meetings is as follows:

	Arabic	Chinese	English	French	Russian	Spanish
Pre-session, in-session and post-session documentation	600	200	4 200	1 500	500	750

2. Meeting services

(a)	Interpretation:	1.5 workdays per meeting (of 2.5 to 3 hours' duration) per language for English, French, Russian and Spanish; 2 workdays per meeting per language for Arabic and Chinese
(b)	Supporting staff:	
	Conference officer:	1 workday for a meeting of 50 or more participants; 0.5 workday for a meeting of less than 50 participants
	Documentation distribution clerk:	0.5 workday per meeting

3. Summary records

(a) Précis-writing/translation: 3 workdays of précis-writing per meeting; 2 workdays of translation per language per meeting

(b) Revision: 0.5 workday per language per meeting

(c) Reproduction and distribution:

The standard roll figures used for summary records of Headquarters meetings are as follows:

Arabic	Chinese	English	French	Russian	Spanish
550	200	3 500	1 500	400	650

For costing purposes in calculating page impressions, it is assumed that each summary record will consist of 15 pages of printed text.

4. Verbatim records

(a) Verbatim reporting: 4 workdays per meeting per language

(b) Verbatim revision: 1 workday per meeting per language

(c) Reproduction and distribution:

The standard roll figures used for verbatim records of Headquarters meetings are as follows:

Arabic	Chinese	English	French	Russian	Spanish
500	200	3 400	1 000	400	500

For costing purposes, in calculating page impressions, it is assumed that each verbatim record will consist of 30 pages of printed text.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.2

Third report

Revised estimates under sections 3, 13, 27 and 31 and income section 1

[Original: English]

[23 October 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/2) on revised estimates under sections 3 (Political affairs, trusteeship and decolonization), 13 (Economic Commission for Africa), 27 (Public information) and 31 (Staff assessment) and income section 1 (Income from staff assessment) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

I. PHASING OUT OF ACTIVITIES UNDER SECTION 3C (NAMIBIA)

2. The Advisory Committee recalls that, pending the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) on the United Nations plan for the independence of Namibia, the General Assembly approved the provisional estimates under section 3C (Namibia) of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

3. The Advisory Committee further recalls that following the independence of Namibia on 21 March 1990, the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/243 A of 11 September 1990, dissolved the United Nations Council for Namibia and approved the continued implementation of a limited programme of activities for the biennium 1990-1991. The Committee notes that the revised estimates take into account the impact of the independence of Namibia and the implications of Assembly resolution 44/243 A. The revised estimates are based on the assumption that a major component of the related activities will be completed by the end of 1990, with residual programmes to be delivered in the period 1991-1994.

United Nations Council for Namibia

4. As indicated in table 3C.1 of the Secretary-General's report, a revised amount of $919,300 is estimated for the biennium 1990-1991 for the United Nations Council for Namibia. Included in this total is an amount of $241,800 for the cost of organizing a seminar on programme planning for the national reconstruction and development of Namibia, subject to agreement by the Government of Namibia (A/C.5/45/2, para. 20). In response to an inquiry, the representative of the Secretary-General indicated that it was unlikely that the seminar would be held later in 1990 since the Government of Namibia had not yet responded to the Council's proposal. The Advisory Committee further notes that at the United Nations Pledging Conference for the Reconstruction and Development of Namibia, held on 21 and 22 June 1990, the matter of the reconstruction and development of Namibia had already been discussed. Under the circumstances, the Committee recommends that the estimate of $241,800

should be deleted at this time. Should the Government of Namibia express interest in holding the seminar, the Secretary-General should indicate the related requirements in his performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Office of the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia

5. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 34 of the report that it is the Secretary-General's intention to make every effort to implement the General Assembly's request in paragraph 7 of resolution 44/243 A to redeploy the staff of the Commissioner's Office as a matter of priority. However, the Committee notes that a provision of $1,634,900 has been proposed under section 3C for salary and common staff costs of the 28 staff members of the Commissioner's Office awaiting placement.

6. The Advisory Committee was informed that with the winding down of activities in the Commissioner's Office at Headquarters, Lusaka, Gaborone and Luanda, the majority of the 61 total posts have already been vacated and posts would have to be found for 28 staff members located at Headquarters, namely, 1 D-2, 5 P-5, 2 P-4, 6 P-3, 2 P-2 and 12 General Service posts.

7. In response to further inquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that some of the remaining 28 staff members had already been placed elsewhere in the Secretariat or would be redeployed shortly. The Advisory Committee believes that in view of the high turnover of staff, the average rate of external recruitment at all levels, the number of present and foreseeable vacancies and the urgent need for additional staff at some other offices, in particular for peace-keeping activities and at regional commissions, it should not be too difficult to place the remaining staff of the Commissioner's Office by the end of 1990. The Committee therefore recommends that the Secretary-General should be requested, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 44/243 A, to make all efforts to redeploy those staff members by the end of 1990. In this connection, the Advisory Committee recalls the provisions of staff regulation 1.2, according to which staff members are subject to the authority of the Secretary-General and to assignment by him to any of the activities or offices of the United Nations. The Advisory Committee therefore concludes that the provision for salaries and common staff costs for 28 staff members for 1991 cannot be justified and recommends that the amount of $1,634,900 should be deleted from the revised estimates for the biennium 1990-1991.

8. With regard to the preparation of a comprehensive national census for Namibia, the Committee notes from paragraph 32 of the Secretary-General's report that the Government of Namibia has not yet made such a request and that no provision has yet been made for assistance.

9. In this connection, the Advisory Committee believes that the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is best equipped to carry out the census. The Committee was informed that UNFPA was already in contact with the Government of Namibia. The Committee therefore recommends that if the Secretary-General receives such a request from the Government of Namibia, UNFPA should be requested to carry out a national census in Namibia and that, if possible, it be financed from outside the regular budget.

United Nations grants

10. Grants are discussed in paragraphs 41 to 43 of the report. As indicated in paragraph 43, of the $3 million provisionally appropriated under this heading the estimated subvention from the regular budget is $2.9 million. Of that amount, $1.5 million for 1990 has already been credited to the United Nations Fund for Namibia. It is proposed to make the remaining $1.4 million available to meet the possible residual obligations of the United Nations Institute for Namibia, which were referred to in the statement of programme budget implications 1/ relating to the draft resolution later adopted by the General Assembly as resolution 44/243 B.

11. As explained in that statement, reported weaknesses in the Institute's financial accounting made it difficult to determine the full extent of its financial problems; current estimates indicate that the Institute's budget for 1990 of $5,300,800, approved by the Senate of the Institute, exceeds income for 1990 and cash resources carried forward from 1989 by approximately $1.4 million. The Advisory Committee is very concerned over the apparent lack of proper financial control and management of the Institute, which resulted in such a high deficit despite the early closure of the Institute on 30 September 1990 and the substantial reduction of related programme activities.

12. The Advisory Committee notes that the amount of up to $1.4 million now foreseen to meet the deficit of the Institute was originally intended to be available for assistance and scholarships to Namibians under special projects under the Nationhood Programme for Namibia, as listed in annex III to the Secretary-General's report, and not for the liquidation of the Institute. In response to its inquiry, the Committee was informed that the $1.5 million already credited to the Fund (see para. 10 above) had been spent in 1990 primarily for scholarships of Namibians and that there would be further needs in 1991 and beyond to complete those scholarships. To that effect, the United Nations Trust Committee for the United Nations Fund for Namibia will seek additional funds in 1991 to implement those activities.

13. In this regard, the Advisory Committee notes the statement in paragraph 43 of the Secretary-General's report that the necessary additional amounts will be "financed solely from voluntary contributions and will not entail additional subventions under the regular budget in 1990-1991". The Advisory Committee was informed that the Secretary-General intends to launch an appeal in early 1991 for voluntary contributions to the United Nations Fund for Namibia to provide the necessary assistance to Namibian students.

Transitional Unit for Namibia

14. In paragraphs 53 to 64 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/45/2), it is proposed to establish a Transitional Unit for Namibia in the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship, composed of one D-1, two P-3, one General Service (Principal level) and four General Service (Other level) posts. The Unit would assure the orderly completion of all programmes and activities currently financed from the United Nations Fund for Namibia and provide services to the United Nations Trust Committee for the Fund. The Advisory Committee was informed that, at this point, it is planned to maintain the Unit until 1994.

Considering that the majority of training and education projects listed in annex III to the Secretary-General's report are decreasing every year and that a large number will be completed during 1991, services to the Trust Committee for the Fund would also be decreasing considerably from 1990 to 1994. The Committee is therefore of the view that the number of staff proposed for the Transitional Unit for four years, i.e. three Professionals, including one D-1, and five General Service staff members, is not justified. Furthermore, such a unit is normally headed by a staff member at the P-5 level. The Committee therefore recommends that a small unit of one P-5 and two General Service (other level) posts be approved and that the estimates be reduced by $283,000.

15. The Advisory Committee was informed that 23 projects under the Nationhood Programme for Namibia have been inactive for more than one year and that the executive agencies or offices have been requested to prepare terminal budgets for those projects and to return the unutilized balances to the Nationhood Programme Account. The Committee noted that of the 11 remaining projects under the Nationhood Programme, 4 projects are about to be closed, 3 projects are being continued for about five students each and no specific information has been provided on the remaining 4 projects. Of the 7 projects under the General Account, 1 project planned until 1992 is apparently not to be carried out, 3 projects are to be closed, 1 project scheduled until 1993 provides training to one student, the fellowship programme provides assistance to 25 fellows of the Institute, and the assistance project to the Namibia Secondary Technical School at Loudima, Congo, is subject to further review by the Governing Board of the United Nations Vocational Training Centre for Namibia and negotiations with the Government of Namibia.

II. SECTION 3B. DEPARTMENT FOR SPECIAL POLITICAL QUESTIONS, REGIONAL COOPERATION, DECOLONIZATION AND TRUSTEESHIP

16. The activities of the Department carried out under subprogramme 2 (Special programmes of economic assistance) of programme 2 (Special political questions), coordinated by the Unit for Special Emergency Programmes of the Department, are indicated in paragraphs 65 to 68 and tables 3B.1 and 3B.2 of the Secretary-General's report. The Secretary-General proposes to redeploy from "Programme support services" an established P-4 post and an established General Service (Other level) post to the Unit for Special Emergency Programmes under the programme "Political affairs". The Committee is of the view that some of the functions of the Unit may fall within the mandate of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other agencies providing emergency relief that are better equipped to mobilize and provide international assistance. The Committee therefore recommends that the functions of the Unit should be reviewed.

17. The Committee recalls that the P-4 post and the General Service post in the "Programme support services" have become redundant following the phasing out of the activities relating to Namibia after its independence and therefore are due for abolition. The Committee points out that the activities of the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples have been decreasing for a number of years. The Committee does not support the redeployment of one redundant P-4 post and one General Service (Other level) post to the Unit for Special Emergency

Programmes and recommends that those posts should be abolished, together with the second General Service (Other level) post, resulting in a further deduction of $123,600 from the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

III. SECTION 3D. CENTRE AGAINST APARTHEID

18. In paragraphs 69 to 78 and tables 3D.1 and 3D.2 of his report, the Secretary-General is requesting the establishment of two new P-3 posts and one General Service (Other level) post in the Centre. The Secretary-General is also requesting the upgrading of one existing P-3 post to the P-4 level and two existing P-4 posts to the P-5 level. The representative of the Centre against Apartheid noted that a P-3 post would be required to provide support to the recently established Commission against Apartheid in Sports. Another P-3 post and a General Service post are being requested to provide more administrative backstopping to the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development in implementing the scholarship programme under the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa.

19. The Advisory Committee was informed that the Commission against Apartheid in Sports is at present being serviced by a Secretary at the P-5 level and believes that an additional P-3 post for this activity is not justified. The Committee is also not convinced of the need to provide another P-3 post and a General Service post to the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development since there is no indication that the number of scholarships has increased. The Committee notes that the need for more effective administration of the scholarship programme does not necessarily imply the need for more administrative staff but rather to streamline the procedures in a more cost-effective management.

20. The Centre is also requesting the upgrading of the post of Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary-General of the Centre against Apartheid and of the post of Economic Affairs Officer in the Committee Services and Research Branch from the P-4 to the P-5 level and the upgrading of a P-3 post to the P-4 level in the Publicity, Assistance and Promotion of International Action Branch.

21. The Committee believes that the request for the upgrading of the three posts cannot be justified on the basis of significant additional responsibilities during 1990 and that it would not necessarily result in more expertise and productivity of the Centre. The Committee stresses that proposed reclassification of posts should not be discussed in the course of a current budget programme and should only be requested in a new budget proposal.

22. Taking into account its comments in paragraphs 18 to 21 above, the Advisory Committee therefore recommends against the proposed establishment of two additional P-3 posts and one General Service (Other level) post and the upgrading of one P-3 post and two P-4 posts to the P-4 and P-5 levels respectively, resulting in a further deduction of $219,400 under section 3D of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

IV. SECTION 27. PUBLIC INFORMATION

23. The Advisory Committee notes that the Department of Public Information has commenced or is planning some activities that are to be completed by the end of 1990 or in early 1991 and are estimated at $136,000. In particular the Committee was informed that arrangements for organizing briefings to be held from 8 to 18 October 1990 for non-governmental organizations, the media and business community at Bonn, Germany, Gothenburg, Sweden, and Helsinki, Finland, have been completed and funds earmarked for this activity are fully obligated. The Committee believes that the timely implementation of an information programme is essential for it to have an impact and that the planned activities on Namibia 6 to 12 months after its independence appear not to be justified.

24. For this reason the Committee has difficulty recognizing the effectiveness of holding briefings in December 1990 or early 1991 for non-governmental organizations, the media and business community at Toronto and at Ottawa, Canada, and at Tokyo, Japan, over nine months after Namibia's independence as a follow-up to the journalists' tour of Namibia. The Committee believes that such briefings should have taken place at the time of Namibia's independence or shortly after the journalists' tour and that it does not effectively serve its purpose to conduct them at the end of 1990 or in early 1991. The Committee therefore recommends that the estimated funds of $37,000 should not be approved, taking into account that no funds have been obligated for this purpose.

25. In paragraph 1, recommendation 2 (h), of section II of its resolution 44/50 of 8 December 1989, the General Assembly called upon the Secretary-General to ensure that the Department of Public Information make plans for the establishment of an information centre in Namibia in consultation with the Government of Namibia immediately after independence. The Advisory Committee was informed by the Department that to date no formal request had been submitted by the Government of Namibia. However, it is the Department's understanding that such a request is likely to be made during the course of the current session of the Assembly. The Committee was further informed that discussions had taken place between representatives of the Department and senior officials of the Government of Namibia who expressed interest in cooperating with the United Nations on information matters, including the question of opening an information centre at Windhoek. The Committee concurs with the Secretary-General's plan to redeploy part of the projected savings under section 27 towards the cost estimated at $259,700 (net of staff assessment) for establishing an information centre at Windhoek in 1991 as proposed in paragraphs 85 and 86 of the Secretary-General's report. The Committee trusts that the negotiations with the Government of Namibia on this matter will be completed shortly with a view to establishing the information centre.

V. SECTION 13. ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

26. The Advisory Committee notes that the review of the level of office automation at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) in late 1989 revealed unusually severe operating restrictions on ECA due to outdated technical facilities, in particular the lack of modern computer technology for servicing its activities. The Committee was informed that, with the assistance of automation experts, the working conditions at ECA had been thoroughly assessed by qualified Headquarters staff specialized in modern technology. The evaluation of the administrative structure and working environment of ECA clearly showed that its ability to fulfil its mandate was greatly hampered by the technical backwardness of its facilities.

27. The Advisory Committee concurs with the Secretary-General that urgent action needs to be taken to establish adequate standards of technology and management to ensure the efficient functioning of the Commission. The Committee further notes that the Economic and Social Council also reviewed and took note of resolution 682 (XXV) 19 May 1990 entitled "Improving technical facilities of the Economic Commission for Africa", which was adopted by the Conference of Ministers of the Commission.

28. The Committee has no objection to the estimated costs of $2,898,000 for the project consisting of (a) hardware and installation costs at $2,293,700, (b) software costs at $149,000, (c) a staff training programme and travel costs at $350,300, and (d) maintenance costs for 1991 only at $105,000.

29. The Committee observes that the project would encompass all activities of the Commission and that its financing would therefore include an amount of $500,000 from extrabudgetary resources. As proposed by the Secretary-General in paragraph 104 of his report, the net additional costs of the project under the regular budget, taking into account resources already available under section 13, are estimated at $1,716,500. The Advisory Committee recommends approval of an additional appropriation of $1,716,500 for the biennium 1990-1991 under section 13.

VI. RECAPITULATION

30. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 4 to 29 above on the revised estimates under sections 3, 13, 27, and 31 and income section 1 result in an additional decrease of $2,539,700 and thereby in a total decrease of $10,632,900 under the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 as follows:

Section of Section of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991	Initial appropriations	Increase (decrease)	Revised estimates proposed by the Secretary-General	Additional increases (decreases) recommended by the Advisory Committee	Revised estimates recommended by the Advisory Committee
			(Thousands of United States dollars)		
3	35 988.2	(9 700.7)	26 287.5	(2 502.7)	23 784.8
13	57 725.7	1 716.5	59 442.2	-	59 442.2
27	87 225.4	(109.0)	87 116.4	(37.0)	87 079.4
TOTAL	180 939.3	(8 093.2)	172 846.1	(2 539.7)	170 306.4

31. In addition, the effect of the Advisory Committee's recommendations would be a further reduction under section 31 (Staff assessment) by an amount of $562,000, to be offset by an equal amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

Notes

1/ A/C.5/44/56/Rev.1.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.3

Fourth report

International Computing Centre: 1991 budget estimates

[Original: English]

[1 November 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/45/9) on the 1991 budget estimates of the International Computing Centre (ICC). Prior to its consideration of this question, the Committee met with the Director of the Centre who provided additional information, including his annual report for 1989 and his interim report for 1990.

2. The total ICC budget estimates for 1991, which are denominated in Swiss francs, amount to SwF 16,930,000. This compares with a 1990 approved estimate of SwF 16,215,000.

3. As stated in paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's report, the total estimates in respect of the share of the United Nations for the use of ICC in the biennium 1990-1991 amount to $US 4,952,700 at an exchange rate of SwF 1.61 to the United States dollar, in excess of the current appropriation of $4,289,700 under section 28D (Office of General Services, Headquarters) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. Upon inquiry, the Committee was informed that in view of the recent further depreciation of the United States dollar against the Swiss franc, the exchange rate for 1990 will average SwF 1.40 and for 1991 it is estimated at SwF 1.30; this would raise the estimate for the share of the United Nations to $5,125,500. However, as indicated in paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's report, "based on experience, it is expected that actual expenditures for the biennium might show a significant decrease against projected funding estimates. Any adjustments required at the end of the biennium would be reflected in the second performance report on the programme budget for the 1990-1991 biennium." On this basis, the Committee has no objection to the 1991 estimates for ICC and the related share for the United Nations.

4. The discussion the Advisory Committee held with the new Director of the Centre revealed a number of institutional problems which the Committee believes should be brought to the attention of the General Assembly. For example, the Committee was informed that in September 1990 over 1,000 requests for service by participants were pending, some dating back to 1982. The Committee expressed serious concern about this state of affairs.

5. The Advisory Committee was also informed that the vacancy rate at ICC remains at over 40 per cent; 6 out of 15 Professional posts and 12 out of 28 General Service posts are vacant despite the increasing demand for service and the urgent need to respond more quickly to requests of participants. The Centre was therefore dependent on few experienced key staff working on advanced technology in a difficult working environment which is seriously hampering its effective functioning.

6. In view of the increasing demand of the participating agencies and the urgent need to provide the participants with universal and standard communication links to other networks, users and databases in a more effective manner, the Advisory Committee calls upon the Centre to expedite the recruitment of qualified staff to fill all vacant posts. In this connection, the Committee was informed that the Centre is now carrying out a major reorganization and that its structure and operation are being streamlined to respond adequately to the needs of the participants in developing more effective coordination in data processing and in performing their computing work. The Committee believes that the recruitment of qualified staff will also enable the Centre to implement the restructuring of its network services branch by separating the programming functions from the operational activities. The Committee trusts that the Centre will be fully staffed upon completion of its reorganization to respond quickly to the need of its participants.

7. In another area of concern, the Advisory Committee was informed that ICC is facing continued operational difficulties at the premises of the World Health Organization. The Committee trusts that appropriate arrangements will be made to solve these difficulties.

8. The Advisory Committee was informed about a serious breach in security at the Centre this year. The Committee considers that a highly reliable and secure operations environment is essential to provide proper and effective communications support to participants and trusts that the reorganization of the Centre, as indicated above, will improve the situation.

9. The Advisory Committee was informed that a Working Group has been established to study the objectives of the Centre and the role of the Management Committee. The Advisory Committee understands that the Working Group will meet shortly to examine whether the objectives and roles of the Centre and the Management Committee adequately meet the provisions of the ICC charter with due regard to the divergent interests of the participants. The Advisory Committee welcomes this review and requests the Centre to provide it with relevant information on further developments.

10. The Advisory Committee would like to point out that the Secretary-General's report on the 1991 ICC budget estimates does not contain any information with regard to the present administrative and operational status of the Centre and its current reorganization nor does it contain any information with regard to current or proposed staffing levels of ICC, including the proposed reclassification of posts. This information was made available to the Committee in separate documentation provided by the Director of the Centre. However, in future, the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly should include relevant information on the administrative and operational status of ICC as well as staffing information.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.4

Fifth report

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/45/L.3

[Original: English]

[1 November 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/25 and Corr.1), submitted in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/45/L.3, relating to the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security.

2. On the basis of assumptions outlined in paragraphs 4 to 16 of the statement, the Secretary-General estimates that an additional non-recurrent appropriation of $6,742,100 would be required under section 1 (Overall policy-making, direction and coordination) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, with an additional appropriation of $379,200 under section 31 (Staff assessment), which would be offset by the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

3. The requirements include the provision for continuation through 1991 of the 33 posts originally authorized for 1990 (1 ASG, 1 D-1, 3 P-5, 1 P-4, 6 General Service (other level), 8 Field Service and 13 Local level). Additionally, the 25 posts comprising 1 General Service (other level), 3 Field Service and 21 Local level posts, which were added from 15 March 1990 with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee, would also continue through 1991.

4. As indicated in the statement of programme budget implications, it is proposed to provide five additional temporary posts (2 P-4 and 3 Local level) in 1991. Notwithstanding the reasons given in the statement of programme budget implications, and given that there are at present a total of 58 posts in addition to the 10 military advisor posts, the Advisory Committee questions the need for the proposed additional 5 posts.

5. The Committee recalls that with the cessation of the arrangements for the United Nations Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (UNGOMAP), the Office of the Secretary-General in Afghanistan and Pakistan (OSGAP) was established in order to intensify the Secretary-General's efforts for a comprehensive political settlement. At the time of the establishment of OSCAP, the Secretary-General had requested the host Governments to continue to bear the local operating cost of the Office, similar to the undertaking they had made for UNGOMAP. During its consideration of the subject in May 1990, the Advisory Committee was informed by the representatives of the Secretary-General that the host Governments had not provided the same support for OSGAP as had been provided for UNGOMAP. The Committee trusts that pursuant to the Secretary-General's further negotiations with the Governments

concerned, support in the form of local staff, including security staff, vehicles and premises for OSGAP will be forthcoming.

6. The Committee believes that considerable savings can be realized in items of expenditure such as the rental of aircraft as proposed in table 2 of the statement. The Committee therefore recommends maximum economy in the use and type of aircraft.

7. The Advisory Committee recalls that in its letter of 18 May 1990 to the Secretary-General it stated that any future requests for the financing of OSGAP should include a clear identification of the objectives of the mission and should provide justification as to how the requested resources would be utilized to achieve those objectives. The Committee is still not satisfied that the proposals in the Secretary-General's statement show a clear relationship between the objectives to be achieved and the resources required to achieve them.

8. On the basis of the considerations mentioned above, the Advisory Committee recommends a reduction of the Secretary-General's estimate from $6,742,100 to $6,150,000 for 1991. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/45/L.3, an additional amount of $6,150,000 will be required under section 1 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991; furthermore, these additional requirements should be provided without recourse to the contingency fund. In addition, there would be need to appropriate an amount of $336,100 under section 31 to be offset by the same amount under income section 1.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.5

Sixth report

Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters - United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research: request for a subvention to the Institute for 1991

[Original: English]

[7 November 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, in accordance with article VIII of the statute of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), 1/ has considered the recommendation of the Board of Trustees of UNIDIR for a subvention towards meeting the costs of the Director and the staff of the Institute. The recommendation is contained in a note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/6).

2. As stated in paragraph 2 of the note, the General Assembly, at its forty-fourth session, approved an appropriation of $440,000 under section 2B (Disarmament affairs activities) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 as a subvention to UNIDIR from the regular budget for the biennium 1990-1991. The Committee further notes that an amount of $220,000 has been earmarked for 1990, and $220,000 for 1991. In accordance with the Committee's observations that a formal request for a subvention for 1991 would have to be made to the Assembly, notwithstanding the inclusion of that amount in the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, the Board of Trustees of the Institute has recommended a subvention from the regular budget amounting to $220,000 for 1991.

3. As indicated in paragraph 5 of the Secretary-General's note, "in the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters in its capacity as Board of Trustees of UNIDIR (A/45/392, annex II), the Board 'noted with appreciation the vigorous efforts of the Director to encourage further voluntary contributions' on the one hand, but 'emphasized the importance of continuing in the future the annual subvention from the regular budget of the United Nations and the need to maintain the other support arrangements at their current level' on the other hand". The Secretary-General concurred with the observations made by the Board, on the understanding that "every effort will continue to be made by UNIDIR to encourage voluntary contributions towards defraying administrative costs of the Institute and eventually alleviating the need for a subvention from the United Nations".

4. The Committee shares the concern of both the Director and the Board of Trustees of the Institute about the serious financial situation of UNIDIR, and its requiring a continued subvention from the regular budget. The Committee stresses the need for eventual self-sufficiency of the Institute.

5. The Committee notes from paragraph 4 of the note by the Secretary-General that UNIDIR continues to apply the rate of 5 per cent for administrative and programme support costs to reimburse the United Nations for the financial and personnel services provided by the United Nations Office at Geneva to the

Institute. Additional information supplied to the Advisory Committee on programme support costs of the Institute indicates that since 1984 the rate of reimbursement has been reduced from 13 per cent to 5 per cent and that the cost of miscellaneous services to UNIDIR, such as rent, supplies and communications have been absorbed by the United Nations in view of the financial situation of the Institute; according to information supplied to the Advisory Committee, the cost of such miscellaneous services will amount to $148,800 in 1990.

6. The Committee notes that most contributions to UNIDIR continue to be tied to specific projects, despite the efforts by the Director to encourage supplementary contributions to defray the administrative costs of the Institute. Under the circumstances, the Committee recommends that each time an earmarked contribution is received, a fair share of administrative costs should be charged by the Institute to the earmarked funds concerned, thereby eventually enabling the Institute to alleviate the need for a subvention from the regular budget.

7. The Committee believes that UNIDIR performs certain functions that closely relate to the work of other units in the Secretariat, United Nations subsidiary organs, or research institutions. In order to maximize the resources of the Institute, the Committee recommends that UNIDIR carefully review its activities with a view to avoiding possible duplication.

8. Bearing in mind what has been stated in the paragraphs above, the Committee recommends approval of the recommendation of the UNIDIR Board of Trustees for a subvention amounting to $220,000 in 1991; in view of the fact that provision has already been made under section 2B of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, no additional appropriation would be required.

Notes

1/ General Assembly resolution 39/148 H, annex.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.6

Seventh report

Conference services at Vienna; Division of Administrative and Common Services, Vienna; Review of the functioning and administrative support of the departments having mandates related to global social development issues and proposals for the strengthening of the United Nations Office at Vienna

[Original: English]

[29 November 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the following reports of the Secretary-General, which have been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 44/201 A and B of 21 December 1989:

(a) Conference services at Vienna (A/C.5/45/30);

(b) Division of Administrative and Common Services, Vienna (A/C.5/45/32).

The Advisory Committee also had before it the Secretary-General's report on the review of the functioning and administrative support of the departments having mandates related to global social development issues and proposals for the strengthening of the United Nations Office at Vienna (A/C.5/45/4). During its consideration of the above reports, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General, who provided additional information. Furthermore, in November 1990, the Advisory Committee received information in writing from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

A. Conference services at Vienna

2. As stated in paragraph 1 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/45/30), the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/201 A, inter alia, "endorsed the view of the Secretary-General that a single conference-servicing facility at the Vienna International Centre would represent the ideal solution from the standpoint of cost efficiency"; it also requested the Secretary-General to expedite consultations with the parties concerned as had been recommended by the Advisory Committee in its report. 1/ The present report of the Secretary-General has been submitted in compliance with the Advisory Committee's proposal that a report on the outcome of these consultations be submitted to the Assembly, at the latest, by its forty-fifth session.

3. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 3 of the Secretary-General's report that although representatives of the Secretary-General held consultations with representatives of UNIDO and IAEA during April and May 1990, no conclusive agreements on the subject were reached. The Committee also notes that the Joint Advisory Committee for Conference Services at

Vienna, consisting of representatives of the three organizations, "resumed its meetings early in May 1990 and is expected to present its findings and recommendations to the Directors-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, UNIDO and IAEA during the first quarter of 1991".

4. In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 22 of the Secretary-General's report that:

> "The Secretary-General remains firmly convinced that a single conference-servicing facility at the Vienna International Centre would represent the ideal solution from the point of view of cost efficiency and that, in view of its mandate to provide a full range of servicing operations for its deliberative bodies, the United Nations is best suited to assume the responsibility of providing conference services to all organizations at the Centre. Short of this, a single unified service provided by the United Nations for itself and UNIDO would provide most of the benefits anticipated from fully unified conference services at the Centre."

5. The criteria of the Joint Inspection Unit for the establishment of common services, set out in its report, 2/ are summarized in paragraphs 6 to 9 of the Secretary-General's report. As indicated in paragraph 10, those criteria were applied by the Joint Advisory Committee for Conference Services at Vienna in its 1987 study, at which time "the Committee concluded that conference services were suitable in principle for operation as a common service, although some reservations were expressed by the representatives of IAEA".

6. The current arrangements for conference servicing are summarized in paragraph 4 of the Secretary-General's report. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 13 of the report that the current arrangements between the United Nations and UNIDO for conference servicing, "adopted at the time of the conversion of UNIDO into a specialized agency, were intended to cover a brief transitional period until more permanent arrangements could be decided upon on the basis of an analysis of the experience and the actual requirements of the Vienna-based organizations and the necessary budgetary and administrative arrangements could be concluded". The Secretary-General goes on to state that both the United Nations and UNIDO have been generally satisfied with the technical operation of the joint services. However, as discussed in paragraph 16 of the Secretary-General's report and as previously highlighted by the Advisory Committee in its reports on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, 3/ there have been "problems of control and co-ordination arising from the continuation of the transitional arrangements ... under which posts are loaned from one organization to the other and it is necessary to account for income and expenditure in both organizations".

7. That being said, the Secretary-General, pointing out that both UNIDO and the United Nations "would be prepared to administer conference services as a common service" (para. 14), recommends that "the two joint services should now be combined to form a single unified service for both the United Nations and UNIDO" (para. 15). In the opinion of the Secretary-General, such a service, in addition to offering increased economy and efficiency, would also "give Member States a clear picture of the total cost of conference services and the relative cost to each participating organization" (para. 17). Furthermore, as

previously stated, "in view of the relative levels of conference-servicing requirements, it is anomalous for the United Nations not to be responsible for unified or joint conference services at the Centre" (ibid.). The Secretary-General adds that such an arrangement "would leave open the possibility of eventual participation of other Vienna-based organizations, including IAEA, should they find it to their advantage to join the common service" (para. 15).

8. In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that on the occasion of its visit to the Vienna International Centre in June 1990, representatives of IAEA informed the Committee that the Agency was not predisposed in favour of a common conference service. This position of the Agency reflects a variety of reasons, including the view that expectations of economies of scale rarely materialize and the fact that IAEA's current stringent cost controls serve its interests well.

9. The Advisory Committee concurs in the proposal to combine the two joint services of the United Nations and UNIDO to form a single unified service, it being understood that such concurrence should not prejudice the establishment of a common service in the event that all three parties concerned reach agreement on this matter (see para. 3 above).

10. In view of the fact that the United Nations is the largest user of conference services and for the reasons given in paragraphs 18 to 21 of the Secretary-General's report, the Advisory Committee believes that any unified/common service to be established should be administered by the United Nations, with proportionate reimbursement from the other participant(s). The Advisory Committee therefore requests the Secretary-General to continue his consultations with UNIDO and IAEA making clear this position concerning the administration of the service.

11. In paragraph 23 of his report, the Secretary-General proposes that if the General Assembly agrees with his conclusions regarding the establishment of either a common conference-servicing facility at the Vienna International Centre or a unified United Nations/UNIDO service, both of which would be United Nations-administered, it "may wish to invite the governing bodies of UNIDO and IAEA to consider the establishment of unified conference services at the Vienna International Centre as from the biennium 1992-1993". The Advisory Committee concurs in this approach as well as the suggestion that the Secretary-General prepare "specific detailed proposals for such a service" to be submitted to the Advisory Committee at its spring 1991 session and then to the governing bodies of UNIDO and IAEA. Bearing in mind its observations above, the Advisory Committee requests that the proposals should, inter alia, clearly identify the United Nations as the administering body and provide adequate details concerning the apportionment of costs and so on. Should no agreement be reached by the Joint Advisory Committee for Conference Services at Vienna (see para. 3 above) on either a common or a unified United Nations/UNIDO service, the Advisory Committee invites the Secretary-General to submit detailed proposals to it concerning a separate United Nations service.

B. Division of Administrative and Common Services, Vienna

12. As stated in paragraph 1 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/45/32), the General Assembly, in its resolution 44/201 B, concurred with the Secretary-General that an in-depth review of common services at Vienna was needed during the biennium 1990-1991. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 2 of the report of the Secretary-General that it is an interim report to appraise the Assembly of developments during 1990 and also to indicate what further action needs to be taken "to implement the required improvements in the administrative arrangements at the Vienna International Centre".

13. Background information concerning the establishment of common services at the Vienna International Centre is provided in paragraphs 3 to 5 of the Secretary-General's report; as indicated in paragraph 5, "the common services arrangement was predicated on the principle that certain functions should not be undertaken individually by Vienna International Centre occupants".

14. The Advisory Committee notes that those "functions for which each organization could assume responsibility for itself were not covered by the Memorandum of Understanding" (which established the management pattern for the common services) (para. 6); therefore these functions remained with both IAEA and UNIDO. As stated in paragraph 7 of the Secretary-General's report, following the establishment of the United Nations Office at Vienna, UNIDO continued to perform, on behalf of the Office, all financial and personnel services, with the exception of the certification function.

15. As indicated in paragraph 9 of the Secretary-General's report, that arrangement changed once UNIDO became a specialized agency and it was agreed that "the administration of those functions not covered under the Memorandum of Understanding would be undertaken as joint services between the United Nations and UNIDO". The arrangements for these joint services, which are described in paragraph 9, were covered by separate agreements between the United Nations and UNIDO; in this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that "staff costs are budgeted in full by the organization providing the service with reimbursement from the user organization, either in the form of an agreed lump-sum or another cost-sharing formula. Non-staff costs of joint services are budgeted by each organization individually based on estimated or actual usage" (para. 9).

16. The Advisory Committee notes that two survey missions were sent to Vienna during the first half of 1990; as stated in paragraph 12, the teams "examined the quality of common services provided covered under the Memorandum of Understanding and joint services arrangements agreed upon between the United Nations and UNIDO". The teams also "reviewed the cost-sharing arrangements for these administrative arrangements; and considered the appropriateness of the allocation of joint services functions between UNIDO and the United Nations Office at Vienna".

17. In paragraphs 15 to 30 of his report, the Secretary-General discusses at some length the findings of the teams as regards the various common and joint services. In paragraph 31 the Secretary-General states that "the reviews undertaken in 1990 have pointed to the urgent need to reassess and restructure the administrative and common services arrangements at Vienna", including the

assignment of functions in the framework of common and joint services arrangements. The Secretary-General also states that a review of the services is needed in order to determine "the appropriate share of all users in the cost of each service ... to ensure that the reimbursement for services is equitable, that the determination of the levels of services rendered is based on quantifiable data and that the reimbursement formula is relatively simple and lends itself to easy monitoring" (para. 32).

18. The Advisory Committee is in total agreement with the above-quoted conclusions and recommends that the Secretary-General undertake these reviews, in consultation with the other parties concerned, as a matter of priority. In so stating, the Advisory Committee remains of the view that certain services should not be undertaken individually, in other words, they should be administered as common services. Examples of such services include security and safety, buildings management, catering and medical services. However, a reassessment of other common services, such as computer or printing services, also needs to be taken.

19. The above-mentioned reviews would not only cover the services that should be administered as common services but also, as mentioned by the Secretary-General in paragraph 31 of his report, the assignment of functions. In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes the Secretary-General's statement that "activities such as security, communications, library services, language training and buildings management operations are very closely related to the servicing of conferences which ... should come under the management and direction of the United Nations". In the view of the Advisory Committee, notwithstanding its observation regarding conference services (see para. 10 above), the information provided is insufficient for it to form an opinion regarding the management of the other services, some of which are currently administered by IAEA and UNIDO. Rather, the Committee believes that this matter should form part of the consultations and review to be undertaken.

20. A reassessment/review is also needed in respect of joint services. In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that for the reasons provided in paragraph 20 of the Secretary-General's report, joint personnel services are no longer appropriate. The Advisory Committee also notes the Secretary-General's statement that, with regard to financial services, "it would be more efficient for the United Nations to develop a plan for the take-over of pay-roll, payments, system design and programming functions currently carried out by UNIDO for the United Nations Office at Vienna" (para. 18). The Advisory Committee agrees with this conclusion; in its opinion, financial services should be administered separately, particularly when, as in this case, different financial rules and regulations exist for the United Nations and UNIDO. As discussed in paragraph 19, problems also exist regarding general services; the Advisory Committee believes that this area should also be carefully reassessed.

21. As indicated by the Secretary-General in paragraph 32 of his report, a review of the cost-sharing arrangements of all common and joint services is also necessary. The question of cost-sharing arrangements is discussed in paragraphs 28 to 30 of the Secretary-General's report; the Advisory Committee notes the Secretary-General's statement that "it appears that ... the United Nations Office at Vienna has either undercharged for the services it rendered or was overcharged as a user organization" (para. 28). The Secretary-General

goes on to explain that the cost-sharing arrangements for common services have not been reviewed or revised since their formulation; the arrangements for joint services continue to be the agreed fixed lump-sum payments based on estimated usage and costs prevailing in 1986. "The current reimbursement payments for joint services, therefore, do not adequately cover the costs incurred by the servicing organization or accurately reflect the current use by the user organization" (para. 30).

22. The Advisory Committee agrees that a review to determine the appropriate cost-sharing arrangements is needed. However, it points out that the statement that the United Nations Office at Vienna has been overcharged as a user organization or undercharged for services it has provided might lead to misunderstandings, which in turn may impede the progress of negotiations among the parties concerned. While it is true, for example, that the services of the telecommunications network (as opposed to staff costs and other fixed communication costs) are provided free of charge by the United Nations (see para. 30 of the Secretary-General's report), there may be other instances where the United Nations is not being charged sufficiently.

23. In this connection, the Committee notes from paragraph 14 that the joint services arrangements appear economical; however, "this is mainly due ... to the fact that to this date charges have been calculated on the basis of the cost of the services in 1986. The fixed amounts established at that time have not been revised in an effort to keep cost of the reciprocal arrangements for joint services at a minimum level. The United Nations has now been notified that ... a significant increase in the amount of reimbursement by the United Nations Office at Vienna to UNIDO for the cost of these services is anticipated in the next biennium."

24. In the circumstances, the Advisory Committee urges the Secretary-General to start reviewing the cost-sharing arrangements as soon as possible, and, in this connection, it trusts that all parties concerned will cooperate in the review with a view to ensuring equitable rates of reimbursement.

25. As stated in paragraph 33 of his report, the Secretary-General proposes that the General Assembly delegate authority to the Advisory Committee to approve, at its spring 1991 session, proposals for revised administrative arrangements at Vienna that would be based on the consultations to be held with UNIDO and IAEA. The same proposals could then be reviewed by the Industrial Development Board of UNIDO in July 1991 and by the Board of Governors of IAEA in June 1991. The Advisory Committee concurs in this approach.

26. In paragraph 34 of his report, the Secretary-General states that the "main burden of the renegotiation of the Memorandum of Understanding and revisions to the joint services agreement will fall on the United Nations Office at Vienna, and in particular, on its Division of Administrative and Common Services." In the opinion of the Secretary-General, that Division "would require strengthening if it is to play an effective role in the discussions with the representatives of the other organizations." The Secretary-General also notes that "while it may be premature at the present stage to provide for the overall strengthening of the Division of Administrative and Common Services" (as recommended by the Advisory Committee in its report (A/45/570 and Corr.1)), the expanded functions of the Division

require that the head be graded at the D-2 level (para. 35). Accordingly, the Secretary-General proposes the establishment of a new D-2 post, effective 1 January 1991, to be filled by the head of the Division of Administrative and Common Services; the establishment of a General Service post as at the same date is also requested.

27. The Advisory Committee notes that the financial implications of these requests total $93,000 for 1991 under section 28I (Division of Administrative and Common Services, Vienna) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, with an amount of $23,400 required under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by a corresponding amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

28. The Advisory Committee recommends the establishment of these new posts; however, it believes that the related cost for 1991 should be absorbed from within existing resources.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A (A/44/7/Add.1-8), document A/44/7/Add.4.

2/ See A/39/520.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7 and corrigenda (A/44/7 and Corr.1 and 2); and ibid., Supplement No. 7A (A/44/7/Add.1-8), document A/44/7/Add.4.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.7

Eighth report

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission

[Original: English]

[28 November 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/29) on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC). 1/ During its review of the statement, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General who provided additional information.

2. As cited by the Secretary-General in paragraph 1 of his statement, the decisions and recommendations of the Commission that would entail financial implications for the biennium 1990-1991 relate to the following issues:

(a) Comprehensive review of the conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories;

(b) Remuneration of staff in the Professional and higher categories: base/floor salary scale;

(c) Conditions of service of staff in the General Service and related categories;

(d) Education grant;

(e) Conditions of service of staff in the Field Service category.

3. As can be seen from the table following paragraph 30 of the Secretary-General's statement, the financial implications for the United Nations regular budget, as a result of implementation of the decisions and recommendations of ICSC are estimated at $4,543,500 for 1990 and $10,173,300 for 1991. In addition, as indicated in the footnotes to that table, financial implications of $800,185 are estimated for 1989, and it is proposed to finance that amount from the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. The annualized system-wide cost is estimated at $23,741,000, as summarized in the Commission's report.

4. The Advisory Committee was informed by the representatives of the Secretary-General that the estimated United Nations share for those recommendations relating to the Professional category and above represents a proportion of the estimate for the system as a whole; of the total Professional staff within the system, approximately 25 per cent are with the United Nations, and approximately 77 per cent of these are on the United Nations regular budget.

5. The Advisory Committee notes the absence of information on extrabudgetary costs in the Secretary-General's statement, and requests that an appropriate methodology be developed for reflecting this information in future reports.

6. Paragraphs 10 to 12 of the Secretary-General's statement refer to the recommendations of the Commission with regard to the conditions of service of the Assistant Secretary-General and Under-Secretary-General and equivalent levels. ICSC had made recommendations to the General Assembly on the specific issue of housing whereby eligible officials would receive a maximum rental subsidy amounting to 75 per cent of the threshold rent for the individual concerned.

7. The Commission has presented no financial implications for this item for the United Nations common system. The United Nations has estimated the cost to the regular budget for 1991 at $224,000. The representatives of the Secretary-General explained to the Advisory Committee that in arriving at that estimate they had taken into consideration the fact that the United Nations has 58 Assistant Secretaries-General/Under-Secretaries-General on the regular budget; of these, 40 are located in New York and at Geneva and Vienna, the duty stations where the 75 per cent maximum rental subsidy would have the greatest effect. An estimated half of the number of Assistant Secretaries-General/Under-Secretaries-General in New York, at Geneva and at Vienna would be affected by the new provisions, with an average difference between current and new entitlements of $1,000.

8. The Commission's recommendation on remuneration of staff in the Professional and higher categories (the base/floor salary scale system) entails financial implications, for the United Nations system as a whole, at $5.5 million per annum. However, in view of the fact that the Commission recommended implementation as of 1 March 1991, the costs to the United Nations regular budget for 1991 would be $873,950, compared with system-wide cost of $4.6 million.

9. The Advisory Committee has no objection to the estimates put forward by the Secretary-General in his statement, and notes his intention, expressed in paragraph 31, to deal with the impact of the recommendations of ICSC in the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 (A/C.5/45/45 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1).

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 30 and addendum (A/45/30 and Add.1).

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.8

Ninth report

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions of the Economic and Social Council at its first and second regular sessions of 1990

[Original: English]

[5 December 1990]

A. Economic and Social Council resolutions 1990/11, 1990/71 and 1990/75

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/31) on the revised estimates resulting from resolutions of the Economic and Social Council at its first and second regular sessions of 1990, including Council resolution 1990/72 of 27 July 1990, which requires action by the General Assembly. During its consideration of the above-mentioned report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General who provided additional information.

2. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 2 of the Secretary-General's report that for 1991 the estimated additional requirements arising out of Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/11 of 24 May 1990 and Council resolutions 1990/71 and 1990/75 of 27 July 1990 amount to $656,200, of which $632,200 relate to activities derived from legislative mandates not provided for in the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, as follows:

Section		US dollars
8.	Activities on global social development issues	31 000
9.	Transnational corporations	361 200
13.	Economic Commission for Africa	240 000
	Total	632 200

Section 8. Activities on global social development issues

3. The Advisory Committee has no objection to the proposed activities on global social development issues in implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/11 concerning the situation of Palestinian women, and recommends approval of the estimate of $31,000 under section 8 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

Section 9. Transnational corporations

4. The Advisory Committee recalls that the activities proposed in Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/71, as described in paragraphs 8 to 12 of the Secretary-General's report, were initiated by the Commission on Transnational Corporations at its fifteenth session in April 1989. 1/

5. In the view of the Advisory Committee, the Secretary-General's report does not clearly indicate how the activities mandated by the Commission on Transnational Corporations relate to the work of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and to what extent those activities are in conformity with the guidelines established by the General Assembly in section I, paragraph 10, of its resolution 44/228 of 22 December 1989 and enhance the objectives of the preparatory process.

6. The Advisory Committee therefore recommends that the activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations, described in the Secretary-General's report, should be carefully reviewed, taking into account the mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, with a view to avoiding possible duplication and making the preparation of the Conference more cost-effective. Accordingly, the Committee recommends an estimate of an additional amount of $180,000 under section 9 of the programme budget.

Section 13. Economic Commission for Africa

7. The Advisory Committee recalls, as indicated in paragraph 16 of the Secretary-General's report, that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 1990/75, requested the Secretary-General to make available to the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) the financial resources required to collect up-to-date information on the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990. The Advisory Committee has no objection to the related estimate of $240,000 under section 13 of the programme budget.

Contingency fund

8. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 18 of the Secretary-General's report that no provision has been made in the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 to undertake the activities indicated in paragraphs 3 to 7 above and that a consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates of all activities that may be absorbed from resources within the contingency fund will be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of its current session (A/C.5/45/73).

9. The Advisory Committee observes that the Secretary-General, in his report (A/C.5/45/31), does not propose as alternatives the redeployment of resources from low-priority areas, the modification of specific programme activities or their deferment until the next biennium in the event that it would not be possible to accommodate from the contingency fund the new activities called for in the above-mentioned Economic and Social Council resolutions. In this

connection, the Committee recalls its observation in paragraph 10 of its second report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991: 2/

> "The Committee strongly stresses the need for the Secretariat, when preparing statements of programme budget implications of draft resolutions and decisions, not to abdicate its responsibility to provide, for consideration of intergovernmental bodies concerned, precise indications of alternatives in the event that total additional expenditures proposed exceed resources available within the contingency fund."

10. Subject to its observations and taking into account paragraph 6 above, the Advisory Committee recommends an estimate of additional requirements in the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, totalling $451,000, attributable to three resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its first and second regular sessions of 1990. Accordingly, the Committee recommends that, at this stage, the Fifth Committee should take note of the above estimate on the understanding that such additional appropriations as may be necessary will be requested by the Secretary-General in the context of the consolidated statement to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of its current session in accordance with section C, paragraph 5, of the annex to Assembly resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987 (A/C.5/45/73).

B. Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/72

11. By its resolution 1990/72, the Economic and Social Council called upon the General Assembly, as a matter of urgency, to approve the inclusion of four key posts for the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) in the United Nations regular budget in order to enable the Institute to carry out its approved work programme and functions on a continued and sustained basis as stipulated in its statute.

12. The Advisory Committee notes that the Institute, under its statute, is financed by annual contributions from African States and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Committee was informed that the budget of the Institute for 1990 is $1,564,300 and should be financed as follows:

	US dollars
UNDP contribution	735 300
African countries assessed contributions	587 000
ECA trust funds and miscellaneous incomes	242 000
Total	1 564 300

According to information received by the Committee, only UNDP has fully paid its contribution. Income from Member States totals $356,680, but this must be seen against a cumulative total of 1990 assessments and arrears of contributions (1976-1989) amounting to $9,853,841. The Committee was further informed that UNDP is reconsidering its institutional support for IDEP and may decide to provide support only to research/consultancies.

13. It is proposed in paragraphs 25 and 26 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/45/31) to include the four posts of Director of the Institute (D-1), Chief of Administration and Finance (P-5) and two senior lecturers (each at the P-4 level) in the regular budget. This would result in additional requirements for 1991 of $392,200 under section 13 (Economic Commission for Africa) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. The Committee notes from paragraph 27 of the Secretary-General's report "that no posts can be identified within section 13 of the 1990-1991 programme budget that could be redeployed to the Institute should the General Assembly decide to include the four posts in the regular budget".

14. The Advisory Committee expresses its concern about the persistent and substantial shortfall of funds to the Institute and its current financial situation. In this connection, the Committee notes that a number of African States are having great difficulties in making their assessed contributions to the Institute during the current critical economic situation in Africa. The Committee notes that the Institute is the only regional institution able to provide training and research services for all States members of the ECA in the area of economic development and planning. Considering the role of the Institute in the training of African planners and development specialists and the continuing and growing needs of African Governments for the services of the Institute in the fields of training, research and advisory services, the Committee believes that there is an urgent need to secure the continued operation of the Institute through institutional support and funding. The Committee therefore recommends that the General Assembly should request the Governing Council of UNDP to urge the Administrator of UNDP to implement fully Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/72, as follows:

(a) To give its full backing to the short-term training programme and the research and advisory activities of the Institute;

(b) To continue its support for the activities of the Institute in 1990 and beyond.

The Committee further recommends that, in the meantime, as an interim measure, a subvention under section 13 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 should be made in the amount of $392,200 to finance the four posts of the Institute. The General Assembly may also wish to request the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of its request to the Governing Council of UNDP.

Notes

1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1989, Supplement No. 10 (E/1989/28/Rev.1).

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A (A/44/7/Add.1-8), document A/44/7/Add.1.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.9

Tenth report

Comprehensive review of the after-service health insurance programme

[Original: English]

[5 December 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/33) on the comprehensive review of the after-service health insurance programme (ASHI). During its consideration of the report, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General.

2. The Advisory Committee recalls that, in its first report on the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, 1/ it had recommended that the Secretary-General should explore means by which extrabudgetary activities could contribute towards the costs of the after-service health insurance programme. The report of the Secretary-General presents the salient issues relating to after-service health insurance, in particular the legislative and financial aspects, and also outlines the steps taken with regard to the recommendation of the Advisory Committee.

3. In paragraphs 2 to 6 of his report, the Secretary-General describes the origin of and developments in the health insurance programme, including after-service health insurance which, following the decision of the General Assembly, on 20 December 1966, has been available to retired staff members since 1967.

4. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 7 of the report of the Secretary-General that the average after-service health insurance enrolment rose from 2,672 participants in the 1984-1985 biennium to 3,588 in the 1988-1989 biennium, an increase of 34.3 per cent. Over the same period, the organizational subsidy increased from $6.9 million to $12.6 million, an increase of 82.6 per cent. The escalation of medical costs and related insurance premiums also contributed both to the growth and to the increased cost of the programme.

5. For reasons given in paragraphs 8 to 13 of his report, the Secretary-General concludes that the available data do not provide a satisfactory basis upon which to apportion the after-service health insurance subsidy costs between the regular budget and the various extrabudgetary accounts, nor does he believe that the subsidy share can be determined on the basis of the relative proportions of regular budget and extrabudgetary staff costs.

6. In paragraph 14 of his report, the Secretary-General states that for the after-service health insurance subsidy pertaining to each eligible staff member to be correctly apportioned among the sources of funds under which the staff member accrued entitlement to the benefit, the implementation of the integrated management information system must be awaited.

7. While the Advisory Committee welcomes the efforts made by the Secretary-General in this regard, the Committee believes that its concerns on the subject have still not been satisfactorily addressed. The Advisory Committee notes from paragraph 15 of the report that the Secretary-General proposes, as an interim measure, "to take an initial step towards offsetting a portion of the ASHI subsidy against extrabudgetary sources of funds in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993". The Secretary-General indicates that he will continue to explore ways and means of further refining the methodology for apportionment of the cost of after-service health insurance. In this connection, the Committee trusts that a simple but effective methodology, which would not necessarily be tailored to specific individuals, will be developed to ensure that extrabudgetary activities contribute a fair proportion of the cost of the after-service health insurance programme. As indicated by the Secretary-General in paragraph 15 of his report, the Committee will be provided with a report on the subject at its spring session, in 1991.

8. The Committee notes from paragraph 11 of the annex to the report of the Secretary-General that, commencing in 1989, a system was introduced, whereby premium contributions could be deducted monthly from the retired staff member's periodic pension benefit and that by the end of the current biennium all such contributions will be administered under the pension deduction system. The Advisory Committee is concerned about the impact of this additional activity on the secretariat of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and intends to monitor the administrative costs involved.

Notes

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7 and corrigenda (A/44/7 and Corr.1 and 2), para. 28G.4.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.10

Eleventh report

Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials - Members of the International Court of Justice

[Original: English]

[6 December 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on conditions of service for members of the International Court of Justice (A/C.5/45/44). Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 31/204 of 22 December 1976, the report reviews not only the salaries of the members of the Court, but also the allowances and compensation provided for in Article 32, paragraphs 2 to 4, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice, and the retirement pensions given to members of the Court. During its consideration of the question, the Advisory Committee met with representatives of the Secretary-General and the Court who provided additional information.

2. Remuneration of members of the Court, including background information, is discussed in section I of the Secretary-General's report (paras. 4-21); the discussion is supported by tables 1 to 3. In response to inquiries concerning table 3, which compares the gross emoluments of officers of three national judiciaries, the Court of the European Communities and the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal, the Advisory Committee was informed that the emoluments shown in respect of a number of these bodies are subject to taxation.

3. In paragraph 14 of his report, the Secretary-General states that he "has received a letter from the Court suggesting that grounds exist for increasing the total annual compensation of its members from the present level to $150,000". In this connection, the Advisory Committee notes that, as indicated in the Secretary-General's report, the current annual compensation of a member of the Court is $101,750, comprising a base salary of $82,000 and a cost-of-living supplement of $19,750.

4. The Court's arguments for the above-mentioned increase are quoted at length in paragraphs 14 to 16 of the Secretary-General's report. In paragraph 18, the Secretary-General states that he "fully supports the view of the Court that a structural change in the level of the emoluments of its members is justified at this time"; in paragraph 20, he recommends that the cost-of-living supplement of the judges should be incorporated into the present base salary of the members of the Court and that the resulting emoluments should be adjusted upwards by approximately 5 per cent, which would yield an annual base salary of $106,500. As explained in paragraph 21, it is also proposed to introduce a mechanism for post adjustment similar to the one that pertains to the salaries of staff in the Professional and higher categories. This approach would "yield a total salary (base salary plus post adjustment) of approximately $145,000 per annum".

5. The introduction of this post adjustment mechanism would negate the need for the current cost-of-living supplement and the local currency floor/ceiling protection mechanism as discussed in section II of the Secretary-General's report (paras. 22-28). In the opinion of the Secretary-General, "such an approach would offer strong advantages of administrative simplicity" (para. 28). The Committee also notes from section IX of the Secretary-General's report (paras. 46-51) that, should the recommendations regarding an increase in base salary from $82,000 to $106,500 be adopted, "the pension entitlement of the judges elected to serve nine years would increase from $41,000 to $53,250 a year (a 29.9 per cent increase)" (para. 50), i.e., half of the annual base salary.

6. Section III of the Secretary-General's report (paras. 29-34) deals with the special allowances of the President and Vice-President when acting as President, as well as the question of representation allowances for the members of the Court other than the President. In paragraph 34, the Secretary-General proposes to increase the special annual allowance of the President from $15,000 to $20,000; he also proposes to increase the special allowance payable to the Vice-President when acting as President from $94 a day (with a maximum of $9,400 a year) to $115 a day (with a maximum of $11,500 per year).

7. Noting that, up to the present, members of the Court have received no allowance for representational purposes, the Secretary-General recommends the establishment of such an allowance for members of the Court, other than the President, at the level of $4,000 per year.

8. In section IV of his report (para. 35), the Secretary-General recommends that, should the General Assembly endorse the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission for special provisions relating to the rental subsidy system for Assistant Secretaries-General and Under-Secretaries-General, "the same provisions [should] be extended to the members of the Court, contingent on their establishing residence at The Hague". Similarly, in section VI of his report (paras. 38-40), the Secretary-General suggests that, in the light of General Assembly resolution 43/226 of 21 December 1988, "the amount of the reimbursement for costs of education applicable to members of the Court be increased in line with General Assembly resolution 43/226, subject to the same ceiling (i.e. $6,750), and extending the provisions regarding disabled children to members of the Court" (para. 39). The Secretary-General also proposes that "any increase decided by the General Assembly in the level of the grant or changes in the provisions regarding disabled children should be extended to members of the Court" (para. 40).

9. Sections V, VII and VIII of the Secretary-General's report deal with the compensation of ad hoc judges, relocation allowance, and compensation for survivors in the event of death, respectively. The Advisory Committee notes the Secretary-General's view that no change is required in the existing arrangements under these headings; however, the Advisory Committee notes that there would be consequential additional costs related to any increase in the base salary.

10. The question of pensions is discussed in section IX of the Secretary-General's report; as stated therein, the pensions are non-contributory and constitute half of the annual salary to a retired judge who has completed a full term. As indicated in paragraph 5 above, a change in the base salary of members of the Court would have a consequential effect on the amount of pensions payable.

11. The financial implications of the changes proposed in the compensation and conditions of service of the judges amount to $1,065,100 for 1991, as detailed in paragraph 52 of the Secretary-General's report.

Observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee

12. The Advisory Committee agrees with the Secretary-General's conclusion that a structural change in the level of the emoluments of the members of the Court is justified at this time. However, the Committee had a number of difficulties with the proposals of the Secretary-General and, in this connection, it emphasizes that the system of emoluments and conditions of service applicable to members of the Court should be simple and distinct from any other in the United Nations system. In so stating, the Advisory Committee recalls its previous observations on the subject that "the fact that the salaries of the members of the Court are sui generis does not mean that they can be determined in a vacuum. What it does mean is that they should not be directly related or compared to those of senior Secretariat officials." 1/

13. Consistent with paragraph 12 above, the Advisory Committee recommends that the annual salary of members of the Court be set at $145,000, effective 1 January 1991, with the next review to take place no later than three years from 1 January 1991. There would be no cost-of-living adjustment or supplement as is currently the case. Nor would there be a post adjustment factor (see para. 4 above). However, the Committee recommends that a measure of protection against currency fluctuation should be provided, through the application of a local currency floor and ceiling measure, similar to that now in place. Under that system, the salaries are protected in local currency terms in the event of a weakening (strengthening) of the dollar below (above) a certain exchange rate. The Committee further recommends that the Secretary-General should submit to it at its spring session in 1991 his proposals regarding the appropriate floor/ceiling exchange rates to be applied.

14. The Advisory Committee believes that the special annual allowance of the President and that payable to the Vice-President when acting as President should be maintained at the current amounts. The Committee, in keeping with its observations above, recommends against the establishment of a representation allowance for members of the Court (see para. 7 above); it also recommends against the extension of any housing allowance provision to members of the Court (see para. 8 above). Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 40/257 C of 18 December 1985, authorized the reimbursement of education expenses to the judges up to a ceiling of $4,500 per child, the Committee does not object to extending to members of the Court the provisions of Assembly resolution 43/226 (which raised the ceiling of the education grant), nor to extending to them any increase in the amount of the grant which the Assembly might decide at the current session. However, it is of the view

that any future increases that may be decided by the Assembly should not automatically be extended to members of the Court. Rather, the matter should be brought to the attention of the Advisory Committee and the Assembly in the context of its review of the conditions of service of the judges.

15. The recommendation of the Advisory Committee to consolidate the cost-of-living element - including what has been proposed by the Secretary-General as a post adjustment factor - into the base salary of judges, while greatly simplifying the salary structure, would also result in a disproportionate increase in pensions. To correct this anomaly, the Advisory Committee recommends that the pensions of the judges no longer be expressed as a percentage of base salary. Rather, the pension entitlement of the judges elected to serve nine years should be set at $50,000 a year (a 22 per cent increase). A judge who is re-elected should receive an additional $250 per month for each further month of service up to a maximum pension of $75,000 per year. The pension would be subject to review whenever the annual salary of the members of the Court is reviewed (see para. 13 above). Approval of these recommendations would require other consequential changes in the pension scheme of the International Court of Justice. These could be reported by the Secretary-General to the Advisory Committee which could authorize their provisional application until the next session of the General Assembly.

16. In response to an inquiry, the Advisory Committee was informed that the financial implications of implementing its recommendations amount to $957,000 for 1991. A breakdown of that amount, also provided by representatives of the Secretary-General, is as follows:

Financial implications

	United States dollars
Increase in salary (A/C.5/45/44, paras. 20 and 21)	648 750
Increase in emoluments of ad hoc judges (ibid., para. 37)	54 000
Education grant increase (ibid., para. 39)	11 250
Relocation of judges (extra costs) (ibid., para. 43) ...	a/
Compensation for survivors (extra costs) (ibid., para. 45)	b/
Pensions (ibid., para. 50)	243 000
Total	957 000

a/ The financial implication of this proposal is unknown at this time, since it is contingent upon the relocation of some of the judges whose terms of office will expire on 5 February 1991.

b/ No financial implication of this proposal is estimated at this time.

17. The Advisory Committee concurs with the Secretary-General that the additional requirements relating to the payment of ad hoc judges would be governed by the provisions of paragraph 1 (b) (i) of General Assembly resolution 44/203 of 21 December 1989 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1990-1991; the balance of the additional requirements relate to inflation and should be treated accordingly, i.e., outside of the procedure for the use of the contingency fund.

Notes

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-first Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/31/8 and Add.1-26), document A/31/8/Add.3, para. 15.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.11

Twelfth report

Implementation of the Global Programme of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its seventeenth special session, devoted to the question of international cooperation against illicit production, supply, demand, trafficking and distribution of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances; Enhancement of the efficiency of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control

[Original: English]

[7 December 1990]

Part I

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/27), containing the statement of programme budget implications of General Assembly resolution S-17/2 of 23 February 1990, submitted to the Committee in compliance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/84 of 27 July 1990. The Committee has also considered the report of the Secretary-General on the enhancement of the efficiency of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control (A/45/652) and the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/45/64) of draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.44.

2. During its recent visit to the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Advisory Committee held detailed discussions on the role of that regional commission in the Global Programme of Action. The Committee raised a number of concerns with regard to coordination of the various activities being undertaken by ECLAC with those of the rest of the United Nations system. Similar concerns were raised in the Committee's meetings with the specialized agencies. The Committee trusts that the ways and means will be found to ensure the active participation and contribution of each of the regional economic commissions and of the specialized agencies in this major initiative of the United Nations.

3. The programme budget implications resulting from the mandates and activities included in the Global Programme of Action are described in paragraphs 9 to 37 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/45/27) and are presented under the headings used in the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control. 1/ The various areas of activity listed are: (a) strengthening the licit drug control system; (b) prevention and reduction of the illicit demand for drugs; (c) treatment and rehabilitation; (d) elimination of the supply of drugs from illicit sources; and (e) suppression of illicit drug traffic.

4. On the basis of assumptions outlined in paragraphs 9 to 37 of his report, the Secretary-General estimates that an additional amount of $911,900 under section 20 (International drug control) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 would be required in 1991, with an additional estimate of

$178,800 under section 31 (Staff assessment), which would be offset by the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment).

5. Of the total requirements indicated, $746,900 relates to posts: three P-5, five P-4, three P-3, one P-2, eight General Service (one at the Principal Level). As described in paragraphs 11 to 37 of the report, the 20 posts will be distributed as required within the 5 areas of activity mentioned above. Additionally, $150,000 in respect of consultants and $15,000 in respect of staff travel has also been indicated.

6. As pointed out in paragraph 38 of the Secretary-General's report, no provision has been made in the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 for the implementation of the Global Programme of Action. Therefore, as explained in paragraphs 39 and 41 of the report, additional requirements for the biennium would have to be drawn from the contingency fund.

7. The Advisory Committee does not object to the establishment of the 20 posts proposed by the Secretary-General in his report and accordingly recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that the programme budget implications arising from the mandates and activities included in the Global Programme of Action would entail additional requirements of $911,900 under section 20 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. In addition, there would be need for an additional amount of $178,800 under section 31 of the programme budget, to be offset by the same amount under income section 1. These additional requirements would be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines for the operation and use of the contingency fund. Accordingly, such additional appropriations as may be requested by the Secretary-General will be considered in the context of a consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates to be submitted to the Assembly at the end of its current session in accordance with section C of the annex to Assembly resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987 (A/C.5/45/73).

Part II

8. In his report on the enhancement of the efficiency of the United Nations structure for drug abuse control (A/45/652) and the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/45/64) of draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.44, the Secretary-General envisages a unified secretariat structure, entitled the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, with responsibilities for (a) treaty implementation; (b) policy implementation and research; and (c) operational activities. The Programme would be based at Vienna and would integrate fully the structures and functions of the Division of Narcotic Drugs of the Secretariat, the secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board and the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC).

9. In paragraph 13 of his report, the Secretary-General proposes abolishing the present extrabudgetary post of Assistant Secretary-General of UNFDAC and establishing an extrabudgetary post at the D-2 level to head the operational activities division of the new structure. In this connection, pursuant to section II of General Assembly resolution 35/217 of 17 December 1980, the Advisory Committee has received a request from the Controller for the creation of the D-2 post. The Advisory Committee concurs in this request.

10. Under the terms of draft resolution A/C.3/45/L.44, the Secretary-General has been invited to take the necessary steps for the appointment of a senior official at the level of Under-Secretary-General who will head the Programme. The Advisory Committee believes that other Committees should be mindful of the fact that establishment of posts and the determination of their levels is within the mandate and prerogative of the Fifth Committee. Under the present circumstances, the Advisory Committee is unable to pronounce itself on the level of this post, but believes strict observance of General Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 would require that the appointment of such a senior official should be accommodated within the existing number of posts at that level. In that event, the additional requirements for the post at the Under-Secretary-General level, estimated at $83,900 under section 20 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 (see A/C.5/45/64, para. 5), would not be necessary.

11. In paragraph 9 of his report, the Secretary-General envisages that the staff in the division of policy implementation and research of the new structure would, for the most part, be funded from the regular budget. However, certain units of the division would rely on extrabudgetary financing. In addition, as far as operational activities are concerned, the Committee notes from paragraph 10 of the report that it is proposed to finance that particular division from extrabudgetary resources of UNFDAC, which will be placed under the direct responsibility of the head of the unified secretariat structure.

12. In this connection, during its recent visit to Vienna, the Committee met with the Executive Director of UNFDAC to discuss current arrangements for the review and approval of the UNFDAC programme budget. The Committee was informed that current arrangements include submission of an annual UNFDAC programme budget for the consideration and approval of the Secretary-General prior to its implementation by the Executive Director.

13. In keeping with its call for improved approval and reporting mechanisms so as to ensure that extrabudgetary resources are subject to a greater measure of scrutiny and control, the Advisory Committee requested the Secretary-General to submit to it, starting with the budget year 1991, the Executive Director's programme budget proposals for UNFDAC, together with the Secretary-General's initial reaction to them, for its concurrence prior to the transmission of his approval to the Executive Director.

Notes

1/ E/1990/39 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.1.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.12

Thirteenth report

Salary and retirement allowance of the Secretary-General and salary and pensionable remuneration of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

[Original: English]

[11 December 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was informed that the current salaries of the Secretary-General, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are as follows, effective November 1990: 1/

	Gross salary (1)	Net salary (2)	Post adjustment (3)	Net remuneration (2 + 3)
		US dollars		
Secretary-General	156 429	91 143	50 127	141 270
Director-General	143 133	84 229	46 327	130 556
Administrator of UNDP	143 133	84 229	46 327	130 556

The Secretary-General also receives a representation allowance of $22,500 and the Director-General and the Administrator of UNDP receive $10,000 each. The Advisory Committee was informed that the maximum annual retirement allowance for the Secretary-General is $81,650; the pensionable remuneration of the Director-General and the Administrator is $156,864.

2. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/198 of 21 December 1989, an increase of approximately 5 per cent in the salaries of staff in the Professional and higher categories came into effect in July 1990. This increase has not been applied to the net salaries of the Secretary-General, the Director-General and the Administrator of UNDP.

3. Should the 5 per cent increase be applied to the net salaries, with effect from 1 January 1991 only, the result would be as follows:

	Gross salary (1)	Net salary (2)	Post adjustment (3)	Net remuneration (2 + 3)
		US dollars		
Secretary-General	165 192	95 700	52 635	148 335
Director-General	151 233	88 441	48 642	137 083
Administrator of UNDP	151 233	88 441	48 642	137 083

4. The Advisory Committee recommends that a 5 per cent increase be applied in the case of the Director-General and the Administrator of UNDP as from 1 January 1991. The Advisory Committee notes that the pensionable remuneration of these two officials has been adjusted in the past in the same manner as that of the staff in the Professional and higher categories (i.e., by the same percentage and at the same time). As a result of the changes in net remuneration, the pensionable remuneration for these two officials would increase to $163,960. The Committee therefore recommends that the pensionable remuneration for the Director-General and the Administrator of UNDP be set at $163,960 with effect from 1 January 1991.

5. With regard to the salary of the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee believes that, in view of his position and responsibilities in terms of the United Nations and as Chairman of the Administrative Committee on Coordination, a more fundamental change in salary and emoluments is warranted. The Advisory Committee therefore recommends the following:

Gross salary (1)	Net salary (2)	Post adjustment (3)	Net remuneration (2 + 3)
	US dollars		
192 073	109 678	60 322	170 000

The Committee also recommends that the representation allowance, which has been at its present level since 1963, should be increased to $25,000. The total net remuneration of the Secretary-General as from 1 January 1991 would therefore be $195,000.

6. With regard to the retirement allowance of the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 2772 (XXVI) of 29 November 1971, this had been calculated at 50 per cent of gross salary. However, in 1986, the Advisory Committee recommended that this relationship need not necessarily be maintained and that changes in the retirement allowance of the Secretary-General should be linked to changes in net remuneration rather than changes affecting gross salary. 2/ The Advisory Committee therefore recommends that the maximum annual retirement allowance should be set at $85,000 as at 1 January 1991, which is 50 per cent of the recommended net remuneration of $170,000. The retirement allowance payable to a former Secretary-General and to surviving spouses would be revised accordingly.

7. The amount of the retirement allowance should be adjusted by application of the same procedure and percentage used for adjusting the scale of pensionable remuneration for staff in the Professional and higher categories. The Advisory Committee notes that this same procedure is currently used for adjusting the pensionable remuneration of the Director-General and the Administrator of UNDP.

8. The Advisory Committee had requested and received information on the salaries and emoluments of the executive heads of the other organizations of the common system. The Committee noticed several disparities, including different dates for application of increases. The Committee believes that a

coherent system should be established for the rationalization of compensation of the executive heads, bearing in mind the prerogatives of the legislative bodies concerned. The Advisory Committee intends to look further into this matter with the specialized agencies and report to the General Assembly.

Financial implications

9. The financial implications of the recommendations made in the preceding paragraphs are summarized below. Such financial implications as relate to the United Nations regular budget are, in the opinion of the Advisory Committee, attributable to cost increases and should therefore not be a charge on the contingency fund.

Secretary-General

(a) Retirement allowance: The increase in the retirement allowance would result in a total additional cost, under section 1 (Overall policy-making, direction and coordination) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, of the pension benefit in payment to a former Secretary-General of $3,350 in 1991;

(b) Net salary: Should the total net salary and representation allowance of the Secretary-General be increased, with effect from 1 January 1991, there would be an increase of expenditure under section 1 of the programme budget estimated at $31,230 for 1991;

(c) Gross salary: The increase in the gross salary of the Secretary-General would result in an increase of expenditure for staff assessment under section 31 of $35,644 for 1991. This increase would be offset by an increase in an equivalent amount in respect of income from staff assessment under income section 1.

Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation

(a) Pensionable remuneration: The increase in the pensionable remuneration of the Director-General would result in an increase of expenditure, under section 5A (Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation) of the programme budget, in the Organization's contribution to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund estimated at $1,064 for 1991;0

(b) Net salary: The increase in the total net salary of the Director-General would result in an increase of expenditure under section 5A of the programme budget of $6,527 for 1991;

(c) Gross salary: Should the gross salary of the Director-General be revised as recommended, there would be an increase of expenditure for staff assessment under section 31 of $8,100 for 1991. This increase would be offset by an equivalent increase in respect of income from staff assessment under income section 1.

10. A draft resolution embodying the Advisory Committee's recommendations is annexed to the present report.

Notes

1/ Includes post adjustment increases for February and November 1990, but does not include the 5 per cent salary increase approved for staff in the Professional and higher categories with effect from 1 July 1990.

2/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/41/7 and Add.1-11), document A/41/7/Add.11.

ANNEX

Draft resolution

Salary and retirement allowance of the Secretary-General and salary and pensionable remuneration of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions [A/45/7/Add.12],

1. Concurs with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concerning the salary and retirement allowance of the Secretary-General contained in paragraphs 5 and 6 of its report and the procedure for adjusting the retirement allowance and payments to surviving spouses as contained in paragraph 7 of its report;

2. Also concurs with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee concerning the salary and pensionable remuneration of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, contained in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its report;

3. Approves the amendment to annex I to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations with effect from 1 January 1991, as set forth in the annex to the present resolution.

Annex

Amendment to annex I to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations

In paragraph 1, the salary figure for the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation shall read $US 151,233.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.13

Fourteenth report

Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials - Full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

[Original: English]

[11 December 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the report of the Secretary-General on conditions of service and compensation for the full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/C.5/45/21). The report has been submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 40/256 of 18 December 1985. In the paragraphs below, the Advisory Committee submits its observations and recommendations on the proposals made by the Secretary-General with regard to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of ICSC. As regards the Chairman of the Advisory Committee, the Secretary-General indicates, in paragraph 5 of his report, that the level of compensation has been the same as that of the Chairman of ICSC since 1978. The General Assembly may therefore wish to consider those proposals of the Secretary-General which relate to the Chairman of the Advisory Committee in the light of decisions the Assembly would take on the Advisory Committee's recommendations for the Chairman of ICSC.

2. For the reasons given by the Secretary-General in paragraphs 33 and 34 of his report, the Advisory Committee concurs in the proposal made in paragraph 35 of the report to adjust the compensation of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of ICSC upward by 5 per cent. Similarly, the Advisory Committee recommends acceptance of the Secretary-General's proposal to increase the special allowance of the Chairman of ICSC from $5,000 to $8,000, contained in paragraph 39 of his report; as indicated also in paragraph 39, this allowance has remained fixed since 1975.

3. In paragraphs 42 to 44 of his report, the Secretary-General recalls previous recommendations with regard to the payment of installation grant provisions (this would not apply to present incumbents) and compensation to survivors in the event of death during service. As indicated by the Secretary-General, the Advisory Committee had agreed with both of these recommendations when they were initially made. 1/ Since the Assembly did not take any action on them at its fortieth session, the Secretary-General is re-submitting them and the Advisory Committee maintains its previous position on both of them.

4. In paragraph 47 of his report, the Secretary-General suggests that the amount of reimbursement for costs of education be increased in line with General Assembly resolution 43/226 of 21 December 1988, subject to the same ceiling and in implementation of the provisions regarding disabled children.

The Secretary-General also suggests that provision continue to be made for one related trip per year from the place of scholastic attendance when outside the country of the duty station. In paragraph 48 of his report, the Secretary-General proposes that any increases decided by the General Assembly in the level of the education grant or changes in the provisions regarding disabled children should be extended to the officials concerned. The Advisory Committee concurs with the foregoing recommendations of the Secretary-General, as well as with his recommendation in paragraph 49 that the rental subsidy provisions proposed for assistant secretaries-general and under-secretaries-general be applied if they are endorsed by the General Assembly at its current session.

5. In paragraph 40 of his report, the Secretary-General indicates his belief that the amount of pensionable remuneration should remain at $120,000. The Advisory Committee recalls that this level was first introduced with effect from 1 January 1983. According to information received by the Committee, the movement in the Consumer Price Index from 1 January 1983 to 1 October 1990 was 44.8 per cent; application of this inflation factor would result in an adjustment of the initial level of $120,000 to $173,760. Consequently, the Committee believes that it would not be unreasonable to increase the level of pensionable remuneration of the Chairman of ICSC to $140,000 and the Vice-Chairman to $130,000.

Notes

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 7 (A/39/7 and Add.1-16), document A/39/7/Add.1.

DOCUMENT A/45/7/Add.14

Fifteenth report

First performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991

[Original: English]

[15 December 1990]

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 (A/C.5/45/45 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1).

A. A/C.5/45/45

2. As shown in paragraph 1 of the Secretary-General's report, the revised net requirements for the biennium 1990-1991 are estimated at $1,761,807,800, which is $154,400,000, or 9.6 per cent, more than the net requirements approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 44/202 A and B of 21 December 1989. The net overall increase reflects increases under both expenditure ($181,984,500) and income ($27,584,500) estimates.

3. The Advisory Committee notes that, as stated in paragraph 2 of the Secretary-General's report, the revised requirements reflect primarily variations in the rates of exchange and in the impact of inflation, as well as changes in standard costs and decisions of policy-making organs. Details concerning these factors are provided in subsequent sections of the Secretary-General's report.

4. The elements comprising the increase of $181,984,500 in expenditure estimates are summarized in paragraph 18 of the report, as follows:

	US dollars
Decisions of policy-making organs	2 739 200
Other changes	(479 000)
Adjustments to standard costs	1 442 500
Rates of exchange	106 953 400
Inflation	71 328 400
Net increase in expenditure	181 984 500

5. A breakdown, by budget section and by main determining factor, of the revised estimates is provided in annex I, section A, to the Secretary-General's report; annex II, section A, provides a breakdown of the

estimated additional requirements or decreases by budget section and by main object of expenditure. Corresponding information by duty station is provided in annex I, section B, and annex II, section B. The Secretary-General's report is also supported by schedules 1 to 5, which contain additional information on rates of exchange and inflation, post adjustment indices, General Service salaries, and percentage rates of common staff costs.

6. The additional requirements of $2,739,200 attributable to decisions of policy-making organs are discussed in paragraph 4 of the Secretary-General's report; the Advisory Committee notes that these have been incurred under the terms of General Assembly resolution 44/203 of 21 December 1989 on unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1990-1991. As discussed in paragraph 5 of the report, the net decrease of $479,000 under the heading "Other changes" relates in part to special missions approved under the provisions of Assembly resolution 44/203, as well as to interorganizational security measures authorized in accordance with the same resolution, and the compensation of ad hoc Judges of the International Court of Justice. As also stated in paragraph 5 of the report, requirements arising from the above have been, to a large extent, offset by savings projected against the appropriation for 1990 related to the Secretary-General's efforts to achieve a comprehensive political settlement in Afghanistan. With regard to special missions, the Committee notes that an amount of $67,800 for the dispatch of a mission to Haiti in connection with the holding of elections is shown under section 1 (Overall policy-making, direction and coordination); the question of where this amount should be budgeted is currently under discussion in the General Assembly.

7. Adjustments to standard costs are discussed in paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's report; as noted therein, the net increase of $1,442,500 comprises an increase in common staff costs resulting from a revision of the rates in the light of experience, offset by a reduction in average realized salary levels within grades on the basis of experience.

8. As indicated in paragraph 4 above, the major components of the net increase in requirements relate to changes in the operational rates of exchange and inflation since the beginning of the biennium. As stated in paragraph 14 of the Secretary-General's report, the requested increase of $106,953,400, resulting from exchange rate variations, reflects depreciation in the exchange rate of the United States dollar with currencies of European duty stations over the period December 1989 to December 1990. The Committee notes the statement made also in paragraph 14 that in accordance with established practice, the December 1990 rates are projected to the end of 1991.

9. The Committee inquired as to what the difference would be if the 1991 currency projection were based on the average obtained thus far in 1990 rather than on the latest prevailing rates, and was informed that if this were done, the related estimate would be lower than the one used by the Secretary-General by $15.4 million. The Advisory Committee recommends that the latter method of projecting currency variances be used with a consequential reduction in the Secretary-General's estimate of expenditure by $15.4 million.

10. Upon inquiry, the Committee was informed that the revised expenditure estimates referred to in paragraph 1 of the Secretary-General's report include

$17.3 million gross for the financial implications of the recommendations of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) as contained in its report 1/ and an increase of some $6.3 million for travel (bringing the total to $43 million for travel of representatives, travel of staff on official business, and travel of staff to meetings).

11. With regard to the $17.3 million gross for the financial implications of the recommendations of ICSC, the Committee notes that, as of the preparation of the present report, the matter is still under discussion in the Fifth Committee. That being the case, the Advisory Committee recommends that the related financial implications of such recommendations of ICSC as may be adopted by the General Assembly be reported in the second performance report to be submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session. Accordingly, the Advisory Committee recommends a reduction of $17.3 million gross in the Secretary-General's estimate.

12. As for travel, the Committee recalls that it has often called for strict controls and monitoring of travel, with the combination of trips for different purposes whenever feasible. The Committee believes that, with strict attention to the need for efficiency and economy, expenditures for travel in the biennium 1990-1991 should not exceed $40 million. Therefore, the Committee recommends that the Secretary-General's revised estimate be reduced by $3 million with regard to travel.

13. The net increase of $27,584,500 under the income sections comprises, as discussed in paragraphs 15 to 17 of the Secretary-General's report, the following adjustments:

		US dollars
Income section 1.	Income from staff assessment	25 964 800
Income section 2.	General income	4 878 500
Income section 3.	Revenue-producing activities	(3 258 800)
	Net total	27 584 500

The recommendations made by the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 9 and 11 above have a consequential effect on income section 1, which will have to be determined at such time as those recommendations are acted upon by the General Assembly.

B. A/C.5/45/45/Add.1 and Corr.1

14. As stated in paragraph 3 of the addendum to the Secretary-General's report, the addendum was submitted pursuant to the Advisory Committee's recommendation in its report, 2/ wherein the Committee, while not objecting to the reinstatement of the $1.5 million which had been provisionally cut from the global provision for temporary assistance for meetings under section 29 (Conference and library services) of the proposed programme budget for the

biennium 1990-1991, recommended that recourse to the $1.5 million should be subject to its prior concurrence, in the context of the Secretary-General's first performance report for the biennium.

15. Paragraphs 4 to 8 of the addendum deal with the evolution of conference-servicing requirements in 1990. In this connection, the Secretary-General states that, while it had been expected that the number of meetings would have been reduced in the biennium 1990-1991, in fact, experience in 1990 indicates a clear increase in the number of non-recurrent meetings and related work-loads and financial requirements (para. 5). The Secretary-General also emphasizes that, for the reasons provided in paragraphs 6 and 7, the costs of any departures at Geneva and Vienna from the originally planned schedule are much higher than they are for departures in New York (para. 6). Furthermore, because of the unexpected and additional work-load at Headquarters, the capacity that used to be available in New York to handle sudden or unexpected changes in and additions to the volume of conference-servicing work-load on a global scale has been significantly curtailed (para. 8). Consequently, when additions and changes in the calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations or in a body's meeting or documentation requirements occur, resort to temporary assistance becomes unavoidable, resulting in higher costs (para. 8).

16. In paragraph 10 of the addendum, the Secretary-General shows the appropriations and expenditures in 1990 for temporary assistance for meetings and related items; as shown therein, an over-expenditure of $6,192,100 is projected for temporary assistance for meetings and related items in 1990 compared with the corresponding 1990 portions of appropriations under section 29 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 (para. 11). Of that amount, $1.7 million relates to inflation and currency exchange rate fluctuation, for which provision has been requested in the context of document A/C.5/45/45 (see para. 4 above). Accordingly, as explained in paragraph 12 of the addendum, the Secretary-General projects a "net over-expenditure" of $4,475,600 under temporary assistance for meetings and related items.

17. That being the case, the Secretary-General requests the concurrence of the Advisory Committee in the use of the $1.5 million referred to in paragraph 14 above. In addition, the Secretary-General states that in view of the current trends in work-load for 1991, it would appear that the provision for temporary assistance for meetings and related objects of expenditure in the biennium 1990-1991 as a whole will prove seriously inadequate (para. 14), and that corresponding savings in 1991 will not balance the net over-expenditure in 1990 (para. 15). Accordingly, the Secretary-General requests an increase of $2 million in the global provision for temporary assistance for meetings under section 29 of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, to be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines for the operation of the contingency fund. In this connection, the Secretary-General also states that, should it not be possible to accommodate these additional requirements from the contingency fund, it might not be possible to provide full services for the approved calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 1991 (para. 18).

18. Should the $2 million in additional resources prove inadequate, despite efforts to achieve economies, the Secretary-General would report to the

Advisory Committee in 1991 and request authority to enter into additional commitments under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 44/203 (para. 16).

19. The Advisory Committee concurs in the Secretary-General's request to use the remaining $1.5 million from the global provision for temporary assistance for meetings. With regard to the request for an additional $2 million, the Advisory Committee notes from table 2 (para. 10) of the addendum that a substantial portion of the projected over-expenditure in 1990, that is, some $4.9 million, relates to Vienna; most of that amount relates to the payments by the United Nations for services provided by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

20. The Advisory Committee recalls that, as indicated in its report (document A/45/7/Add.6 above, it concurred in the Secretary-General's proposal to prepare specific proposals for the establishment of either a common conference-servicing facility at Vienna or a unified United Nations/UNIDO service, to be submitted to the Advisory Committee at its spring 1991 session. That being the case, the Advisory Committee recommends that no decision be taken at this stage regarding the additional $2 million being requested by the Secretary-General. Rather, the Advisory Committee, in the context of its consideration of the Secretary-General's report, would decide if commitment authority for $2 million is required.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 30 and addendum (A/45/30 and Add.1).

2/ Ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 7A (A/44/7/Add.1-8), document A/44/7/Add.4.

Annex

REPORTS PRESENTED ORALLY BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS AT MEETINGS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

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Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/45/L.2, concerning agenda item 154*

1. At the 6th meeting of the Fifth Committee, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions said that the Advisory Committee had considered the Secretary-General's statement on the programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/45/L.2, concerning electoral assistance to Haiti (A/C.5/45/13). As indicated in paragraph 2 of the statement, should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would establish an observer mission to be known as the "United Nations Observer Group for the Verification of Elections in Haiti" (ONUVEH) for the purpose of verifying the elections in Haiti, scheduled for 16 December 1990. The Observer Group would operate from early October 1990 until January 1991. The Secretary-General estimated the related requirements at $9,368,300 under section 2A (Political and Security Council affairs; peace-keeping activities) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. Of that amount, $5,681,500 was for personnel costs and $3,686,800 for operational costs.

2. The subject-matter of the statement before the Advisory Committee was in many ways unprecedented and involved a great many political variables and questions, several of which could have a bearing on the manner in which the related activities were to be financed or indeed on whether they even constituted a proper expense of the Organization. Moreover, in the opinion of the Advisory Committee, a number of questions arose with regard to the proposed plan of action for the operation, information on which had been provided to the Advisory Committee by representatives of the Secretary-General. The Advisory Committee, bearing in mind its mandate and the fact that those variables and questions could be considered elsewhere, did not take a position on them. It had focused instead on the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, without prejudice to such political decisions as might be taken elsewhere, including in the Fifth Committee.

3. Annex I to the Secretary-General's statement contained a proposed staffing table which indicated a total of 150 security experts, 50 staff at the Professional level and above, including a Special Representative of the Secretary-General at the Assistant Secretary-General level and a chief electoral officer at the D-2 level, 9 General Service staff, 28 Field Service staff, and 112 local staff.

4. Annex II provided additional details on the provisional estimates. The estimate of $1,483,600 for 150 security experts was based on the assumption that 85 security experts would be in the mission area for 45 days only. The Advisory Committee had been informed that the period of 45 days was an average, and that the 85 experts would be called upon as needed. Annex II also indicated that salaries and common staff costs for United Nations staff members were estimated at $1,638,300. The Advisory Committee noted that the salary costs of posts at the Professional level and above, other than the Assistant Secretary-General and D-2 posts, had been estimated at an average

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* Electoral assistance to Haiti.

P-4 level, since it was not possible at that time to determine the levels of the staff that would be assigned to the mission from various duty stations. The Advisory Committee pointed out that, since most if not all of the staff would thus be provided through redeployment, the extent to which the entire estimate of $1.6 million would be required would depend on the extent to which the supplying offices and duty stations would and could obtain replacement staff during the period in question. Thus, significant savings should arise under section 2A or other sections with regard to salaries and common staff costs. Savings could similarly arise in relation to the estimate of $718,500 for subsistence allowance.

5. An amount of $128,200 was budgeted for international and local consultants with expertise in electoral procedures. In view of the United Nations experience in Nicaragua and Namibia, the Advisory Committee believed that the Secretary-General should seek savings by using existing United Nations staff. Miscellaneous supplies and services were estimated at $126,500 and freight and transportation at $255,000. In the opinion of the Advisory Committee, efficient management should produce savings in those areas. An amount of $67,100 was estimated for the rental and maintenance of premises. In the opinion of the Advisory Committee, the host Government should be requested to defray all or part of that requirement through the provision of suitable premises where possible.

6. With regard to equipment, the Advisory Committee noted from paragraph 5 of the statement that the bulk of the communications equipment would be borrowed from the stockpile of surplus equipment of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group currently at Pisa, Italy. Other equipment budgeted for in the estimates, primarily 50 vehicles and electronic data-processing equipment, would be shipped to other missions at the close of the operation and its residual value would be credited to the regular budget. Thus, a considerable portion of the $960,000 for the purchase of vehicles and the $126,800 for the purchase of electronic data-processing equipment should eventually be credited back to the regular budget. The Advisory Committee trusted that purchases of vehicles and equipment would be made with due regard to efficiency and economy.

7. The costs of ONUVEH would also be offset if voluntary contributions to the operation were received. The Advisory Committee urged the Secretary-General to pursue that avenue vigorously.

8. On the basis of its observations and recommendations, the Advisory Committee believed that, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/45/L.2 and decide that the related expenses should be borne by the regular budget, the net additional amount required under the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 as a whole should not exceed $6.5 million.

9. It was not possible at that time to indicate precisely under which sections of the programme budget and in what amounts the various additional requirements and offsetting savings would occur. The actual amounts, within the $6.5 million limit, which would eventually have to be appropriated under the programme budget should be reflected in a special performance report to be submitted to the General Assembly near the close of the current session. The report would take into account, inter alia, such offsetting staff savings as might arise under section 2A and/or other sections, the actual estimated value

of vehicles and equipment to be credited to the budget, the size of the host Government contribution, and the effect of such voluntary contributions as might be received. Pending the submission of the report, the Secretary-General should be authorized to enter into commitments not exceeding $5 million.

10. With regard to paragraph 12 of the Secretary-General's statement, the Advisory Committee recommended that the question of recourse to the contingency fund should be decided at such time as the actual appropriations for the operation were being approved. (See A/C.5/45/SR.6, paras. 1-10.)

Programme budget implications of holding a special session of the International Civil Service Commission

11. At the 11th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that in his statement of the programme budget implications of holding a special session of the International Civil Service Commission (A/C.5/45/16), the Secretary-General indicated that the cost of holding the session from 5 to 9 November 1990 would give rise to conference-servicing, travel and daily subsistence costs estimated at $136,300, but that no additional appropriation would be required under sections 28H (Jointly financed administrative activities) or 29 (Conference and library services) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. The Advisory Committee suggested, therefore, that the Fifth Committee might wish to inform the General Assembly that, should it accept the recommendation of the Committee on Conferences concerning the special session, a/ no additional requirement would arise. (See A/C.5/45/SR.11, para. 41).

Printing requirements of the United Nations

(Agenda item 124)*

12. At the 11th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that although the Advisory Commitee had not yet had an opportunity to consider the report of the Secretary-General on the printing requirements of the United Nations (A/C.5/45/8), it was his personal opinion that it would not wish to delay consideration of the matter by the Fifth Committee. The latter might therefore wish to begin such consideration, subject to any subsequent comments by the Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee would be unlikely to make any recommendations to contradict the recommendations contained in paragraph 13 of the report and it would wish to see how the effects of the policies and practices described in section III of the report would be reflected in the reports of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 and subsequent bienniums. It was also his opinion that priority should be given to the requirements of parliamentary documentation, to modernization and to the use of new technology which would enhance the internal printing capacity. There would, of course, always be documents requiring special printing which would have to be done externally,

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* Pattern of conferences.

but the goal should be to reduce as far as practicable the recourse to external printing. If the Advisory Committee had no subsequent comments, the statement which he had made would stand as its final position on the matter.

13. At the 14th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that following the brief meeting that had been held recently between the Committee and representatives of the Secretary-General, he was in a position to confirm the views expressed by the Advisory Committee at the 11th meeting. (See A/C.5/45/SR.11, para. 45 and A/C.5/45/SR.14, para. 56.)

Review of translation and interpretation services for all official languages in the Economic Commission for Africa

14. At the 29th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the note by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/26) had been prepared in response to a request made by the General Assembly in section VIII of its resolution 44/201 B of 21 December 1989; the details of the request were given in the note. The Advisory Committee was completely dissatisfied with the note: it could not understand why it had taken so long to produce a three-page document which said nothing.

15. Some of the problems were identified in the Secretary-General's note, but the conclusion was that action should be postponed. Some of the reasons given for that conclusion were not convincing. Moreover, if the shortcomings referred to in paragraph 10 existed, then solutions should have been proposed. The Advisory Committee did not feel in a position to make any recommendation on the basis of the note. Subject to guidance from the Fifth Committee, it would take the issue up again in 1991 in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. (See A/C.5/45/SR.29, paras. 27 and 28.)

Programme budget implications of draft resolution I submitted by the Sixth Committee in its report (A/45/739, para. 15), concerning agenda item 144*

16. At the 31st meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/45/34) contained the Secretary-General's estimates of the financial implications of draft resolution I submitted by the Sixth Committee in its report (A/45/739, para. 15). Under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would authorize the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization to hold its next session from 4 to 22 February 1991 and would request the Secretary-General to complete work on the preparation of the draft handbook on the peaceful settlement of disputes between States. The Secretary-General estimated that conference-servicing requirements would amount to $583,000 but would not require any additional appropriations. The Chairman of the Advisory Committee

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* Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization.

therefore recommended that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolution, no additional appropriations would be required under section 26 (Legal activities) or 29 (Conference and library services) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. (See A/C.5/45/SR.31. para. 19.)

Programme budget implications of the draft resolutions contained in documents A/45/L.16 and L.17, concerning agenda item 18*

17. At the 31st meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General's estimate of the full cost of implementing the 1991 programme of work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples would amount to $270,200. However, in the light of experience over the past three bienniums, it was estimated that no more than $189,000 would actually be required. Since the unspent balance of the appropriation for the biennium 1990-1991 was $206,400, the 1991 programme of work could be accommodated within resources already appropriated. He therefore recommended that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolutions A/45/L.16 and L.17, no additional appropriations would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. (See A/C.5/45/SR.31, para. 22.)

Programmme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the First Committee in its report (A/45/783, para. 8), concerning agenda item 61**

18. At the 39th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that, under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would renew the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean and request it to perform the activities mentioned in paragraph 2 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/45/48). The Secretary-General indicated in paragraph 9 of the statement that the adoption of the draft resolution would give rise to conference-servicing costs in 1991; however, additional appropriations would be required under the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. (See A/C.5/45/SR.39, para. 4.)

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* Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

** Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

Programme budget implications of draft decision II submitted by the Second Committee in its report (A/45/848, para. 68), concerning agenda item 12*

19. At the 39th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that, as indicated in the statement of programme budget implications submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/54), the inclusion of Liberia in the list of the least developed countries would lead to an estimated cost of $27,000 for travel for its representatives to the forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions of the General Assembly, but that no additional appropriations would be required. (See A/C.5/45/SR.39, para. 26.)

Programme budget implications of the draft resolutions contained in documents A/45/L.20 and L.21 and Corr.1, concerning agenda item 152**

20. At the 39th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that, under the terms of draft resolution A/45/L.20, an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole would be established for the purpose of preparing the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990, and that it would be authorized to hold a series of meetings. The estimated conference-servicing costs of those meetings amounted to $526,800, but no additional appropriations would be required under section 29 (Conference and library services) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

21. Draft resolution A/45/L.21 and Corr.1 would require the Secretary-General to undertake a number of activities, as indicated in paragraphs 10 to 13 of the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/45/56). Under paragraph 5 of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General would be requested, in consultation with the President of the African Development Bank, to include in his report to the forty-sixth session a study on the proposal of the feasibility of establishing an African commodity diversification fund in the African Development Bank. As explained in paragraph 21 of the statement of programme budget implications, additional consultancy requirements of $50,000 would have to be met in that connection. That amount would be an additional expenditure, to be considered by the General Assembly in the context of the

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* Report of the Economic and Social Council.

** Critical economic situation in Africa:

(a) United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990;

(b) Report of the United Nations Secretary-General's Expert Group on African Commodity Problems;

(c) African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation.

consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, b/ to be submitted to the Assembly towards the end of its forty-fifth session. (See A/C.5/45/SR.39, paras. 29 and 30.)

Programme budget implications of draft resolution B submitted by the First Committee in its report (A/45/775, para. 11), concerning agenda item 53*

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A submitted by the First Committee in its report (A/45/776, para. 8), concerning agenda item 54**

Programme budget implications of draft resolutions N and O submitted by the First Committee in its report (A/45/778, and Corr.1, para. 52), concerning agenda items 56*** and 56 (k)****

Programme budget implications of draft resolution G submitted by the First Committee in its report (A/45/782, para. 24), concerning agenda item 60 (e)*****

22. At the 39th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the combined additional non-conference-servicing requirements arising from the implementation of the five draft resolutions under consideration amounted to $464,700 for 1991. The combined conference-servicing costs which would arise in 1991 in respect of four of the five draft resolutions amounted to $330,500. In that connection, the Secretary-General estimated that no additional resources would be required for conference servicing under section 29 (Conference and library services) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991.

23. The Advisory Committee noted that the implementation of two of the draft resolutions, draft resolution B contained in the report of the First Committee on agenda item 53 (A/45/775) and draft resolution O contained in the report on agenda item 56 (k) (A/45/778 and Corr.1), would entail combined expenditures

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* Prevention of an arms race in outer space.

** Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa.

*** General and complete disarmament.

**** General and complete disarmament: defensive security concepts and policies.

***** Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research.

of $273,000 in 1992 for non-conference-servicing activities. A further requirement of $97,400 would arise in 1993 in respect of draft resolution B. Conference-servicing requirements in the biennium 1992-1993 would amount to $723,500. The Secretary-General stated that all additional requirements for the biennium 1992-1993 would be considered in the context of the proposed programme budget for that biennium.

24. The Advisory Committee noted that, in draft resolution B contained in document A/45/775 and draft resolutions N and O contained in document A/45/778 and Corr.1, the Secretary-General was requested, with the assistance of experts, to carry out specific studies, as identified in the statements of programme budget implications submitted by the Secretary-General in documents A/C.5/45/46, A/C.5/45/50 and A/C.5/45/47. In that connection, the Secretary-General recalled the decision whereby activities related to the preparation of disarmament studies mandated by the General Assembly should be treated as perennial expenditures. To that end, a total amount of $554,200 had been appropriated by the General Assembly for consultants' services and ad hoc expert groups in connecton with disarmament studies in the biennium 1990-1991. A balance of $89,400 remained as of 31 October 1990, but that amount would be required in its entirety for the completion of a study already mandated by the Assembly. In response to inquiries as to why the bulk of the appropriation for the biennium 1990-1991 had been expended in 1990, the Advisory Committee had been informed that most of the releated programme of work for the current biennium would be completed in 1990. The Secretary-General therefore stated that the additional requirements for the preparation of the studies during 1991, which together amounted to $379,500, could not be absorbed under section 2B (Disarmament affairs activities) of the programme budget.

25. Under draft resolution A submitted by the First Committee in its report on agenda item 54 (A/45/776), the Secretary-General was requested to provide all necessary assistance that the Organization of African Unity (OAU) might seek regarding the convening, at Addis Ababa during 1991, of a meeting of experts to examine the modalities and elements for the preparation and implementation of a convention or treaty on the denuclearization of Africa. The related conference-servicing costs would be met by OAU. The financial implications of the draft resolution for the United Nations, which would be $32,600 in 1991, covered the travel and subsistence of eight experts and of one staff member from the Department for Disarmament Affairs. The travel and subsistence of the staff member, estimated at $3,800, would be absorbed under section 2B of the programme budget.

26. In draft resolution G submitted by the First Committee in its report on agenda item 60 (e), the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) was requested, with the assistance of independent experts, to prepare a research report on the economic aspects of disarmament, on the understanding that the costs would be shared between the regular budget of the United Nations and voluntary contributions. In view of the task facing the Director of UNIDIR in obtaining voluntary contributions in the short term, the Secretary-General proposed that the 1991 substantive costs ($52,600) should be borne by the regular budget, but that all substantive costs in 1992, estimated at $48,800, should be met through voluntary contributions. The amount for 1991 covered the travel and subsistence of eight independent experts for one 3-day session, a fee of $500 for each expert, three work-months of consultancy

services, with related travel and subsistence, and one work-month of temporary assistance. According to the Secretary-General, those requirements could not be absorbed under section 2B of the programme budget.

27. In considering the Secretary-General's statements, the Advisory Committee had noted that the studies requested were very costly and felt that the time had come to reconsider the arrangements under which such studies were conducted, including, inter alia, the number of experts convened and the length of sessions. Furthermore, since it had been decided that activities relating to disarmament studies should be treated as perennial and therefore included in the programme budget, the Advisory Committee questioned the need to begin the studies called for in the draft resolutions under consideration during the biennium 1990-1991. Such activities could, instead, form part of the programme of work for the next programme budget. The Advisory Committee also trusted that the Secretary-General would, wherever possible, coordinate with UNIDIR in completing such studies and, with regard to the report requested under the draft resolution contained in document A/45/782, that UNIDIR would take into account past work on the economic aspects of disarmament.

28. Bearing in mind the foregoing observations, the Advisory Committee recommended that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt the draft resolutions under consideration, additional expenditures of $460,900 would be required under section 2B of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. Additional expenditures of $6,800 would also be required under section 31 (Staff assessment), to be offset by the same amount under income section 1 (Income from staff assessment). Those additional requirements would be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines for the operation and use of the contingency fund. Accordingly, such additional appropriations as might be requested by the Secretary-General would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, b/ to be submitted to the Assembly towards the end of the forty-fifth session, in accordance with section C, paragraph 5, of the annex to Assembly resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987. (See A/C.5/45/SR.39, paras. 7-13.)

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Special Political Committee in its report (A/45/824 and Corr.1, para. 14), concerning agenda item 76*

29. At the 42nd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the adoption of the draft resolution would not entail any additional appropriations. (See A/C.5/45/SR.42, para. 30.)

Programme budget implications of draft resolutions I-IV, VI, IX-XIII and XV submitted by the Third Committee in its report (A/45/756, para. 51), concerning agenda item 100**

30. At the 42nd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/45/59) dealt with the programme budget implications of 11 of the 17 draft resolutions contained in the Third Committee's report (A/45/756), which related to the biennium 1990-1991, but he noted that the 11 draft resolutions would also have implications for the proposed programme budgets for the biennium 1992-1993 and beyond. Drawing attention to the additional 1991 costs detailed in paragraph 5 of the statement, and to the assumptions outlined in paragraphs 4 to 6, he noted that the Secretary-General had estimated additional financial requirements for 1991, excluding conference-servicing costs, at $364,900.

31. The Advisory Committee recommended that the four posts requested by the Secretary-General should be maintained as temporary posts during 1991 and that their continued existence should be reviewed in connection with the Committee's consideration of the programme budget proposals for the biennium 1992-1993.

32. With reference to the estimates of conference-servicing requirements of $387,500 set out in paragraph 11 of the statement, the Chairman noted that the adoption of the draft resolutions under consideration would not entail any additional appropriations under section 29 (Conference and library services) in the biennium 1990-1991.

33. Drawing attention to paragraph 10 of the statement, the Chairman said that any additional appropriations requested by the Secretary-General would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, b/ to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of its forty-fifth session in accordance with section C, paragraph 5, of the annex to Assembly resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987. (See A/C.5/45/SR.42, paras. 33-36.)

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* Comprehensive review of the whole question of peace-keeping operations in all their aspects.

** Crime prevention and criminal justice.

Programme budget implications of draft resolution VIII submitted by the Third Committee in its report (A/45/838, para. 109), concerning agenda item 12*

34. At the 42nd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee drew attention to paragraphs 13 to 16 of the Secretary-General's statement (A/C.5/45/60), which set out the resource requirements to arise from the adoption of the draft international Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. As noted by the Secretary-General, should the draft Convention be adopted, additional provisions totalling $1,772,000 for conference-servicing costs and $975,600 for non-conference-servicing costs would be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

35. Those estimates included the emoluments which the members of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, established under the draft Convention, would receive pursuant to article 72, paragraph 8, of that instrument. In paragraph 15 of document A/C.5/45/60, the Secretary-General had suggested that in determining the level of such emoluments, the General Assembly might wish to be guided by its resolution 35/218 of 17 December 1980, by which the Assembly authorized the payment of $5,000 per year to the Chairman and $3,000 per year to each of the members of the Human Rights Committee, and its resolution 44/201 A of 21 December 1989, under which the members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child received similar emoluments. In that context, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee noted that in its resolution 35/218, the Assembly had reaffirmed the principle enunciated in its resolution 2489 (XXIII) of 21 December 1968, according to which neither a fee nor any other remuneration in addition to subsistance allowances should normally be paid to members of organs or subsidiary organs unless expressly decided upon by the Assembly. By the same resolution, the Assembly had revised the rates of honoraria which it had already authorized on an exceptional basis. Resolution 44/201 A had authorized the payment of honoraria to members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, also on an exceptional basis.

36. Given the Third Committee's views on the payment of honoraria, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee was unable to take a position on the issue. At the same time, he requested the Secretary-General to provide the Advisory Committee, prior to its examination of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, a report on the methods of financing treaty and convention bodies with particular reference to the payment of honoraria so that the Committee could make recommendations on the re-establishment of the uniform policy in that regard.

37. With regard to the estimate of staffing requirements in paragraph 13 of document A/C.5/45/60, the Advisory Committee felt that two Professional posts should be sufficient; it therefore recommended that provision for the P-2 post should not be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. (See A/C.5/45/SR.42, paras. 39-42.)

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* Report of the Economic and Social Council.

Programme budget implications of draft resolution V submitted by the Third Committee in its report (A/45/838, para. 109), concerning agenda item 12*

38. At the 42nd meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Committee had noted that under the terms of the draft resolution the General Assembly would inter alia decide to convene a World Conference on Human Rights in 1993 and to establish a Preparatory Committee for the Conference, which would hold a five-day session at Geneva in September 1991. The Advisory Committee had also taken note of paragraph 7 of the draft resolution, which it understood as meaning that the resources to be proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 1992-1993 for the ongoing programme of work on human rights would not be compromised by the activities called for in respect of the Conference and its Preparatory Committee. However, the Advisory Committee noted that paragraph 7 of the draft resolution contained a number of technically incorrect statements. The Advisory Committee was becoming increasingly concerned over the growing tendency of other intergovernmental committees to get involved in administrative and budgetary matters that were within the competence of the Fifth Committee. If that tendency was not checked, the budgetary process might become quite muddled. It was therefore essential for Member States to ensure closer coordination among their representatives in different legislative forums.

39. The cost of holding the session of the Preparatory Committee in September 1991 was estimated at $369,400, all of which was for conference servicing. For the reason provided in paragraph 6 of his statement (A/C.5/45/61), the Secretary-General estimated that no additional resources would be required under section 29 (Conference and library services) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 as a result of the adoption of the draft resolution.

40. In paragraph 7 of his statement, the Secretary-General indicated that he would be in a better position to ascertain the additional requirements that would arise in the biennium 1992-1993 after the decisions to be made by the Preparatory Committee at its first session in September 1991. However, he was of the view that it would be necessary to strengthen not only the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat, but also to provide additional resources for the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat. He therefore indicated, in paragraph 8 of his statement, that while he did not wish to prejudge the outcome of the first session of the Preparatory Committee, nor to establish a predetermined target for or to limit the level of resources for the Conference and its preparatory process, it would be his intention to include in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, an amount of $1.5 million to provide for such requirements as would arise out of the first session of the Preparatory Committee.

41. Notwithstanding the difficulty of estimating the additional requirements that would arise in the biennium 1992-1993 as a result of the adoption of the draft resolution, the Advisory Committee agreed with the Secretary-General that he should include provision in the proposed programme budget for the

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* Report of the Economic and Social Council.

biennium 1992-1993 in that regard. However, it saw no reason to specify the amount to be included at that stage. It would examine proposals that the Secretary-General might make in the context of its consideration of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. (See A/C.5/45/SR.42, paras. 47-50.)

Integrated management information system project

42. At the 44th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Advisory Committee recommended that the Fifth Committee should take note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/20). (See A/C.5/45/SR.44, para. 10.)

Standards of accommodation for air travel

43. At the 44th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the General Assembly should be requested to take note of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/28 and Corr.1). (See A/C.5/45/SR.44, para. 23.)

Construction of additional conference facilities at Addis Ababa and Bangkok

44. At the 44th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General had reported that the construction project at Bangkok was being carried out and would be completed within the timetable given in document A/C.5/45/53. He also noted that the Secretary-General had given no indication that there would be a need to revise the requirements for the Bangkok project.

45. With regard to the construction project at Addis Ababa, the Advisory Committee had exchanged views with the representative of the Secretary-General, who had indicated that the contract for the project would be signed in December 1990 or at the latest in January 1991. A slight reduction in the cost of the project had been projected, but that had to be considered in the light of the exchange rate used to convert the European Currency Unit to dollars.

46. In 1989 the Advisory Committee had recommended that the General Assembly should take note of the Secretary-General's revised estimate of the total cost of the project at Addis Ababa and request the Secretary-General to proceed as necessary with the approved project in accordance with section I, paragraph 1 (a), of Assembly resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, and paragraph 10 (a) of Assembly resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987. The Advisory Committee's current position was similar to that of the previous year. The Chairman noted that in paragraph 13 of document A/C.5/45/53, the Secretary-General had not quoted the full text of the relevant resolution of the Assembly; a partial quotation could be misleading. (See A/C.5/45/SR.44, paras. 36-38.)

Functioning of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres of the Economic Commission for Africa

47. At the 44th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that, as stated in the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/57) on the functioning of the Multinational Programming and Operational Centres (MULPOCs), an overall assessment of the activities of the MULPOCs had led to the conclusion that the objectives for which they had been established were still valid. It was therefore intended to maintain them as they were currently structured.

48. He noted that the staff resources of the MULPOCs for the biennium 1990-1991 totalled 63 posts, financed from both the regular budget and extrabudgetary sources. It was estimated that an additional 18 posts would be needed in the next biennium.

49. The Advisory Committee intended to review the Secretary-General's proposal for additional posts for the MULPOCs in the context of its review of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993. In that connection, the Committee requested a report which clearly indicated the specific programme of work of the MULPOCs and its relationship to the programme of work of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA). The report should also provide a breakdown of the various funding sources for all the posts, indicating whether each of the posts was funded from regular budget or from extrabudgetary sources.

50. Furthermore, a clear indication should be provided on the proper status of the MULPOCs. If they were an integral part of the ECA secretariat, it would seem appropriate that they should report to the ECA Conference of Ministers through the Executive Secretary of ECA rather than, as stated in paragraph 21 of the report, through the committees of intergovernmental experts. The rationale for that arrangement should be explained in the report of the Secretary-General. (See A/C.5/45/SR.44, paras. 43-46.)

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

51. At the 44th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee drew attention to paragraph 1 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/45/65), which stated that the General Assembly, by decision 44/466 of 2 April 1990, had authorized the Secretary-General to enter into commitments not exceeding $6,392,500 for non-conference-servicing costs in the biennium 1990-1991 in respect of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. The Assembly, in the same decision, had also requested the Secretary-General to review the resources required and to report the results to the Assembly towards the close of its forty-fifth session. The Assembly had further decided that such appropriations as might be necessary should have first claim on the contingency fund.

52. Based on the experience gained thus far and the programme of work drawn up by the Preparatory Committee, the level of resources required for the preparatory work for the Conference for the biennium 1990-1991 was estimated at $6,374,700. A breakdown of those resources compared with the amount of $6,392,500 referred to in General Assembly decision 44/466 was provided in table 1 of the Secretary-General's report. As shown in that table, a net

reduction of $17,800 in the estimates included a decrease in resources for temporary posts. The reduction amounted to $582,500, which had been largely offset by increases for other items. The overall estimate for temporary posts was based on expenditures incurred to date, taking into account the revised distribution of posts at Geneva, New York and Nairobi and the Secretary-General's proposal to add four General Service staff members at Geneva. In that connection, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee drew attention to paragraph 16 of the Secretary-General's report, which stated that because the secretariat for the Conference was located away from the United Nations Office at Geneva it was unable to utilize services that would otherwise have been available.

53. He noted that the Trust Fund for Preparatory Activities for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the Voluntary Fund for Supporting Developing Countries Participating in the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and its Preparatory Process had been established. With regard to the Voluntary Fund, he drew attention to paragraph 37, which stated that the Preparatory Committee had decided to recommend to the General Assembly that, on an exceptional basis, daily subsistence allowance payments should be made from the Voluntary Fund for representatives of the least developed countries. Accordingly, the Secretary-General was requesting a decision on the matter by the Assembly.

54. As discussed in paragraph 36 of the Secretary-General's report, it was expected that a number of support activities for the Conference would be financed from the Trust Fund. In response to inquiries, the Advisory Committee had been informed that those activities formed part of the overall programme of work established by the Preparatory Committee at its first session. The Advisory Committee had also learned that the total resources necessary for implementing those extrabudgetary activities were estimated at $15.1 million, and that approximately $3 million had been received thus far. In the opinion of the Chairman of the Advisory Committee, such information should have been included in the Secretary-General's report. The mere mention of activities to be funded from extrabudgetary contributions without an indication of the resources required was misleading, particularly as the estimate of extrabudgetary requirements far exceeded the regular budget contribution. The Chairman requested that in the future, the reports of the Secretary-General should clearly indicate how all resources, including extrabudgetary resources, had been programmed.

55. Drawing attention to paragraph 35 of the report, the Chairman noted that the additional appropriations totalling $6,374,700 which had been requested by the Secretary-General would be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines for the operation and use of the contingency fund. Accordingly, the additional appropriations would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, b/ to be submitted to the General Assembly at the end of its current session in accordance with section C, paragraph 5, of the annex to Assembly resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987. He added, by way of clarification, that the report under consideration did not require the Assembly to approve any additional appropriations at the current stage. The Advisory Committee recommended that the Assembly should be informed that requirements for the Conference would amount to $6,374,700 for 1991 and that the actual amount of any appropriation that might be required would be

considered in the context of the consolidated statement. (See A/C.5/45/SR.44, paras. 49-53 and 60.)

Developments relating to the activities of the Centre for Human Rights

56. At the 44th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Secretary-General's report (A/45/807) had been submitted to the General Assembly pursuant to the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution 1990/47 of 25 May 1990. He drew attention to paragraphs 3 and 4 of the report, which referred to the analysis commissioned by the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management and the unforeseen and rapid growth in the Centre's responsibilities in 1990, and noted that, since the Secretary-General was not in a position to propose redeployment of resources from other sections of the programme budget, Member States had been invited to consider providing voluntary contributions to the Centre.

57. With reference to draft resolution IV on the developments relating to the activities of the Centre for Human Rights, which was submitted by the Third Committee in its report (A/45/838, para. 109), the Chairman drew attention to paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's report (A/C.5/45/66), which recorded the adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, by the Third Committee. Although the draft resolution had not yet been adopted by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General had already submitted the requested additional proposals, in order that the deadline set by the Third Committee could be met. The proposals, which were set out and explained in document A/C.5/45/66, had not yet been considered by the Third Committee from the programmatic point of view.

58. The Advisory Committee noted that the procedure followed in submitting the proposals was irregular, but, since the Convention on the Rights of the Child had entered into force much earlier than anticipated, it recommended that the three additional posts described in paragraph 8 of document A/C.5/45/66, relating to the implementation of supervisory procedures for the Convention, should be approved. The Advisory Committee did not recommend approval of the four posts requested in paragraph 9, however, and maintained that any request for additional posts should be made in the context of the Secretary-General's programme budget proposals for the biennium 1992-1993, and in the light of the management and workload analysis which was currently under way.

59. The Advisory Committee therefore recommended that the Fifth Committee should inform the General Assembly, that, if it adopted draft resolution IV, as orally revised, an additional expenditure of $120,300 for three additional posts related to the Convention on the Rights of the Child would arise under section 23 (Human rights) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, and that the additional expenditure should be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines for the operation of the contingency fund[2]. Accordingly, any actual additional appropriations that might be required would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, b/ to be submitted later in the session. (See A/C.5/45/SR.44, paras. 65-68.)

Optical disc storage and retrieval system

60. At the 46th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee noted that the Chairman of the Fifth Committee had suggested that detailed consideration of document A/C.5/45/58 should be postponed to the forty-sixth session. If the Fifth Committee accepted that suggestion, it may wish to empower the Advisory Committee to authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for such additional requirements as may be necessary for 1991; it would not be difficult for the Advisory Committee to consider such a request from the Secretary-General. (See A/C.5/45/SR.46, para. 12.)

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution contained in document A/45/L.34/Rev.1, concerning agenda item 117*

61. At the 46th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that in document A/C.5/45/72 and Corr.1 it was indicated that a resumed session of the General Assembly would be held for two weeks in April 1991; however, the duration of the session would now be one week. As the Secretary-General had not requested any additional appropriations, the adoption of draft resolution A/45/L.34/Rev.1 would not entail additional provisions under the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991, and conference-servicing costs would be absorbed. (See A/C.5/45/SR.46, para. 2.)

Programme budget implications of the draft resolutions contained in documents A/45/L.31, L.33 and L.38-L.42, concerning agenda item 34**

62. At the 47th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Advisory Committee had no objection to the proposals contained in the statement of programme budget implications submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5.45/68). The programme of work of the Special Committee against Apartheid was approved annually, but as could be seen from the statement of the Secretary-General, particularly in the conclusion, the funds had already been appropriated by the General Assembly for the biennium 1990-1991. One item for which additional requirements would arise was related to public information activities under section 27 (Public information) of the programme budget. That amount, estimated at $117,000 (A/C.5/45/68, para. 37), would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, b/ to be submitted towards the end of the session. The Fifth Committee might wish to inform the General Assembly accordingly. (See A/C.5/45/SR/47, para. 15.)

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* Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

** Policies of apartheid of the Government of South Africa.

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Second Committee in its report (A/45/851, para. 13), concerning agenda item 81*

63. At the 47th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that, under the terms of the draft resolution, the General Assembly would establish a single intergovernmental negotiating process under the auspices of the General Assembly, supported by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), of which the first negotiating session would be held at Washington, D.C. in February 1991. The Assembly would also request the Secretary-General to establish an ad hoc secretariat of appropriate size and quality, consisting mainly of Professional staff of UNEP and WMO, and authorize the Secretary-General to appoint as its head a senior official who would act under the guidance of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee. In the statement of programme budget implications of the draft resolution (A/C.5/45/70), the Secretary-General indicated that implementation of the draft resolution would give rise to conference-servicing costs amounting to $1,522,600, and that the additional costs of holding the session at Washington, D.C. would be borne by the host Government. No additional requirements would arise in respect of the establishment of the ad hoc secretariat, which would consist, in addition to its head, of one D-1, one P-5, one P-4 and six General Service staff, since it was anticipated that its head would be appointed from within the Secretariat and that the other staff members would be made available from UNEP and WMO or from other relevant bodies of the United Nations system. The Advisory Committee concurred in the Secretary-General's proposals and recommended that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly accordingly. (See A/C.5/45/SR.47, para. 38.)

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Second Committee in its report (A/45/849/Add.6, para. 6), concerning agenda item 79 (e)**

64. At the 47th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that in the draft resolution the General Assembly would endorse resolutions 1 (V) and 2 (V) adopted by the Committee on the Development and Utilization of New and Renewable Sources of Energy at its fifth session. c/ The statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/71) indicated the programme budget implications of those resolutions. Should the Assembly adopt resolution 1 (V), additional resource requirements estimated at $73,900 would have to be met under section 5A (Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation) and section 6 (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs) of the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991. The amount of $73,900 would be considered in the context of the consolidated

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* Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind.

** Development and international economic cooperation: new and renewable sources of energy.

statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, b/ to be submitted to the Assembly towards the end of its current session.

65. With regard to the programme budget implications of resolution 2 (V), the statement by the Secretary-General contained estimates of conference-servicing costs totalling $199,900 and non-conference-servicing costs amounting to $113,600. The latter amount would be governed by the guidelines for the operation and use of the contingency fund and would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates. b/ (See A/C.5/45/SR.47, paras. 44 and 45.)

Programme budget implications of the draft resolution submitted by the Second Committee in its report (A/45/849/Add.4, para. 9), concerning agenda item 79 (c)*

66. At the 47th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Advisory Committee had considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General on programme budget implications concerning the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s (A/C.5/45/69).

67. The resource requirements for the biennium 1990-1991 arising from the adoption of the draft resolution, as orally revised, would amount to $387,500, comprising $64,100 under section 11 (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)), $75,100 under section 13 (Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)) and $248,300 under section 15 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)). In paragraph 25 of the statement, the Secretary-General noted that the additional requirements were related to new activities and that it was not anticipated that the amount of $387,500 could be absorbed within existing appropriations. Consequently, the additional requirements would be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines for the operation and use of the contingency fund.

68. The Secretary-General discussed the additional requirements in section IV of his statement (paras. 18-24). In that connection, the Advisory Committee noted that the additional requirements under both section 11 and section 13 would provide for a new P-5 post and a new General Service post at each Commission, as well as additional travel resources.

69. The additional requirements of $248,300 under section 15 would provide for three new Professional posts (one P-5, one P-4 and one P-3) and two new General Service posts, additional travel of staff and the reclassification of one D-1 post to the D-2 level and one P-5 post to the D-1 level. Three new posts (one P-5, one P-3 and one General Service), to be located at Geneva, would provide support to UNCTAD's Special Programme for the Least Developed

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* Development and international economic cooperation: review and appraisal of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries.

Countries. The P-4 post and the second General Service post would be located in the New York office of UNCTAD, as outlined in paragraph 23 (b) of the Secretary-General's statement.

70. The Advisory Committee had discussed the requests of the Secretary-General at length with his representatives from Headquarters and UNCTAD. The Committee had no objection to the additional requirements totalling $387,500, which would, as indicated, be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines for the operation and use of the contingency fund. Accordingly, the additional appropriations requested by the Secretary-General would be considered in the context of the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, b/ to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of its current session in accordance with section C, paragraph 5, of the annex to its resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987.

71. However, the Advisory Committee had reservations concerning the allocation of the additional requirements. In view of the high priority attached to the need to strengthen UNCTAD's Special Programme for the Least Developed Countries, the Advisory Committee was of the view that the additional four posts being requested for ESCAP and ECA (two P-5 and two General Service posts) would be more usefully allocated to UNCTAD. That should not be misconstrued to mean that additional requirements might not be needed, at some stage, at the regional level. However, in the Committee's opinion, the necessary resources should first be consolidated in UNCTAD to enable it to discharge effectively its mandate concerning the implementation of the Programme of Action, as called for in the draft resolution. (See A/C.5/45/SR.47, paras. 21-26.)

Electoral assistance to Haiti

72. At the 47th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Advisory Committee, in considering the report of the Secretary-General on electoral assistance to Haiti (A/C.5/45/67), had recalled that in October 1990, the Fifth Committee had decided to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/45/L.2, the net additional amount required under the programme budget as a whole for the operation should not exceed $6.5 million.

73. The actual amount which would eventually need to be appropriated under the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 was to be reflected in a special performance report to be submitted to the General Assembly towards the end of the forty-fifth session. Pending receipt of that report, the Secretary-General had been authorized to enter into commitments not exceeding $5 million. The report of the Secretary-General had been submitted pursuant to that decision.

74. The Advisory Committee noted from paragraph 10 of the Secretary-General's report that the requirements for the United Nations Observer Group for the Verification of Elections in Haiti in the biennium 1990-1991, primarily in 1990, were currently estimated at $5,867,000. However, upon inquiry, the Advisory Committee had been informed that considerable savings would eventually be realized on items of expenditure such as salaries and common staff costs. Under the circumstances, the Advisory Committee recommended the reduction of the Secretary-General's estimate from $5,867,000 to $5 million.

75. With regard to the question whether recourse should be had to the contingency fund, the Advisory Committee was of the view that the question should be decided in the context of the Fifth Committee's consideration of the consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates, b/ to be submitted to the Assembly towards the end of its current session. (See A/C.5/45/SR.47, paras. 10-13.)

Financing of the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group

76. At the 49th meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the Advisory Committee had considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) (A/45/847). During its consideration of the item, the Advisory Committee had received additional information from representatives of the Secretary-General.

77. Section I of the Secretary-General's report summarized the history of UNIIMOG since its inception on 9 August 1988. As noted therein, as well as in the first report of the Advisory Committee on the programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991 (document A/45/7 above), in April 1990, the Advisory Committee had given its concurrence to commitments in the amount of $29.8 million gross ($29 million net) with regard to the mandate period from 1 April to 30 September 1990. The Advisory Committee had also concurred in the crediting of $5 million to Member States against their assessments for that period, on the understanding that the $5 million balance of the amount to be credited to Member States pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/189 of 21 December 1989 would be credited to them against their assessments in respect of the mandate period beginning 1 October 1990. As indicated in paragraph 32 (a) of the Secretary-General's report, the amount of $29.8 million gross ($29 million net) remained to be appropriated at the current session of the Assembly.

78. As recalled in paragraph 4 of the Secretary-General's report, the Security Council, by its resolution 671 (1990) of 27 September 1990, had extended the mandate of UNIIMOG for two months, from 1 October to 30 November 1990. In that connection, the Advisory Committee had given its concurrence to the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount of $9,823,000 gross ($9,503,000 net) in respect of the projected cost of maintaining UNIIMOG for that period. The Advisory Committee had also concurred in the Secretary-General's proposal to finance that amount from the unencumbered balance of the resources made available to UNIIMOG since its inception. In that connection, the Advisory Committee had noted that because the cost of UNIIMOG for those two months would be met from the unencumbered balance, Member States would, in effect, be credited with an amount totalling $9,823,000 gross ($9,503,000 net). Accordingly, that amount subsumed the outstanding $5 million to be credited pursuant to General Assembly resolution 44/189. The action required by the General Assembly with regard to the amount of $9,823,000 gross ($9,503,000 net) was set forth in paragraph 32 (b) of the Secretary-General's report.

79. As indicated in paragraph 4 of the report, by Security Council resolution 676 (1990) of 28 November 1990 the mandate of UNIIMOG had been further extended for an additional two months through 31 January 1991. On the basis

of the tasks enumerated in paragraph 16 of his report, the Secretary-General projected the cost of UNIIMOG for the two-month period from 1 December 1990 to 31 January 1991 at $7,274,000 gross ($6,946,000 net). A breakdown of that amount by line item was provided in annex III to the Secretary-General's report, while supplementary information was contained in annex V. The Advisory Committee concurred in that estimate and in the Secretary-General's proposal to finance it from the unencumbered balance remaining from the appropriations and authorizations made available to UNIIMOG. The Advisory Committee noted that, should the General Assembly accept the Secretary-General's estimate, an appropriation of $7,274,000 gross ($6,946,000 net) would be required, as indicated in paragraph 32 (c) of the Secretary-General's report.

80. The Secretary-General estimated the costs of UNIIMOG to be $3,475,000 gross ($3,269,000 net) per month from 1 February 1991 onwards, assuming it continued its responsibilities at the current level. Should the Security Council extend the mandate of UNIIMOG beyond 31 January 1991, the General Assembly could authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments up to that level subject to the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee.

81. In its resolution 34/9 C of 17 December 1979, the General Assembly had approved special arrangements for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, by which appropriations required in respect of obligations owed to Governments which provided contingents and/or logistic support to the operation, would be retained beyond the period stipulated under financial regulations 4.3 and 4.4 of article IV of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations. In paragraph 30 of his report, the Secretary-General proposed that the standing decision, as contained in that resolution, should be extended and applied to UNIIMOG. The Advisory Committee recommended acceptance of that proposal. In that connection, the Advisory Committee requested that the Secretary-General should formulate and submit to it proposed guidelines for setting limits to the period within which Governments were required to submit their claims. (See A/C.5/45/SR.49, paras. 2-7.)

The contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates

82. At the 51st meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee said that the total additional requirements to be financed from the balance of the contingency fund for the biennium 1990-1991 amounted to $9,901,800. Since that amount was within the available balance of $13,120,500, the Secretary-General was proposing that the Fifth Committee should recommend an appropriation of $9,901,800. On the basis of the procedures for the use of the contingency fund approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 42/211 of 21 December 1987, the Advisory Committee had no objection to the Secretary-General's proposal. It therefore recommended that the Fifth Committee should recommend an appropriation of $9,901,800 under the sections indicated in paragraph 3 of the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/45/73).

83. The Advisory Committee wished to point out that, while it had thus far been possible to accommodate the additional requirements explained in the Secretary-General's various statements of programme budget implications and

revised estimates within the contingency fund, it might not always be possible to do so in the future. It therefore stressed the need for full compliance with the agreed procedures for the preparation of such statements, and particularly for the indication of alternative courses of action in case the contingency fund could not accommodate the expenditure in question. (See A/C.5/45/SR.51, paras. 6 and 7.)

Notes

a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 32 and addendum and corrigendum (A/45/32 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1), para. 141.

b/ A/C.5/45/73.

c/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 36 (A/45/36).

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